The Middleburg Campus

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College launches Chile school

Jason F. Siegel

The Pontificia Univeridad Catolica is one of many Chilean universities that will now be associated with the C.V. Starr Schools Abroad.

By Lisie Mehlman
News Editor

Beginning in July 2006, Middlebury College will assume full responsibility for the management of the SUNY-Plattsburgh Southern Cone Programs in Chile as part of the C.V. Starr School in Latin America. The Chilean program oversees the education of students at universities in four different Chilean cities.

The process of acquiring the Chilean schools began about five years ago, according to Director of Off-Campus Study David Macey. In 2001, members of the Latin American Studies faculty voiced that they wanted to expand the options for students to study abroad and mentioned that their students had exceedingly positive experiences at the Southern Cone Programs.

Because, as Macey says, "the College is committed to projects that seek to achieve a higher level of immersion than is necessarily sought by other programs," Middlebury contacted Plattsburgh about a possible partnership. Plattsburgh was very responsive to Middlebury's interest in its programs and the two colleges came to an agreement. Macey explained, "The agreement depended on the personal plans of Bill and Carmen Culver, who headed the Southern Cone Programs in Chile, the plans of Plattsburgh and the plans of the head of SUNY schools in Albany." Plattsburgh promptly handed over control of programs in Argentina and Uruguay, and made the Chilean programs its top priorities. It was also determined that when the Culvers decided to retire, the Chilean programs, too, would fall under Middlebury's leadership. That time has now come, and Plattsburgh is currently overseeing its last semester of students while Middlebury has begun admitting students for the fall 2006 semester and is making plans for the program's future. In order to make the transition of leadership as smooth as possible,

See Chile, page 3

Board meets for annual conference

By Polly Johnson
News Editor

Over the February break, the Board of Trustees convened on campus for its annual meeting, a discussion on the future direction and pertinent issues for the College. Although little was voted on during this specific meeting, two important issues were at the forefront of the discussion — the planning and construction of the Donald E. Axinn '51 Center for Literary and Cultural Studies, to take over the location of the old Starr Library, and the College's comprehensive student fee. Also discussed was the general future plan for the College, a topic which, according to President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz, was one of the most valuable topics of the board's gathering. In short, according to Liebowitz, the Board "discussed the direction the plan sets for the College and specific recommendations that were of greatest interest to board members. It also discussed how the board will continue providing feedback throughout the spring."

The most important decision to come out of the meeting regarding the Axinn Center was the decision to keep the project moving forward. The College received approval, according to Liebowitz, to "start demolition on parts of the building, which will keep things moving rather than hold things up."

The comprehensive fee was the second issue of high importance. The student Comprehensive Fee Committee presented a slew of information to the administration, which is under pressure to have a final number before March 20.

Adam Irish '08.5, a member of the Committee, explained some of the issues that the students presented to the Trustees. Aside from recommendations

See Trustees, page 3

SGA requisition bill put to the test

By Thomas C. Drescher
Managing Editor

A recent Student Government Association (SGA) press release announced the initial success of last semester's textbook requisition forms legislation, affirming a marked increase in both the number of timely form submissions and subsequent student resale earnings. College Store employees corroborated the details of the SGA's announcement.

According to statistics compiled by College Store Assistant Manager Georgia Best, students pocketed $19,212 during the 2005 December "buy back," compared to $6,460 last December. This substantial increase can be attributed largely to a dramatic rise in the number of faculty members who submitted their requisition forms well in advance.

"We can't quantifiably say that it has boosted the December payout to students, but a significant majority of the increase can be attributed to timely submission," said College Store Book Department Manager Keith Conkin.

In recent years, according to the press release, approximately 125 of 375, or 30 percent, of all requisition forms have been submitted on time. For this spring's textbook cycle, that figure nearly doubled to 220 out of 375. This is due in large measure to the SGA's efforts to raise awareness among the faculty about the importance of timely form submission, which ensures that the College Store can offer students a fair price for their used books and can then resell the books at 75 per-

See Bookstore, page 2

Candle you feel the love tonight?

Albert Bitici

Enjoying a romantic dinner in Ross Dining Hall on Tuesday, Yerzhan Rashev '06, Brigitte Frett '06 and Zeezhan Hyder '06 celebrate Valentine's Day in style with candles and a tablecloth.

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MIDDBRIEFS

BY JASON F. SIEGEL

College competes in waste reduction contest

Middlebury College recently joined Yale University, Grinnell College, MIT and 89 other colleges and universities in a nationwide campaign to reduce waste on campus. The contest, known as Recyclemania and sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency, began on Jan. 29 and will continue through April 8.

In an e-mail to the College, Campus Sustainability Coordinator Jack Byrne expressed a desire to win in the categories of lowest waste produced per person and highest rate of recycling per person. He also provided a list of recyclable materials for the school.

After the first week, Middlebury led the country in the Per Capita Classic, or the highest rate of recycling, as well as in the Food Service category. Other high-performing schools include Connecticut College and Kalamazoo University.

Middlebury graduate receives fellowship

Allegra di Bonaventura '85, a graduate of Middlebury College's undergraduate program and German Master's program, recently received the Gilder Lehrman Fellowship for assistance on her doctoral thesis, which she is about to undertake at Yale University. The project will deal with masculinity in colonial New England.

Di Bonaventura has received a number of degrees and fellowships since her graduation from Middlebury. She has earned a D.B.S. from the London School of Economics and a J.D. from Yale Law School. She also received a Fulbright Research Fellowship, a Pew Foundation Fellowship in Religion & American History, a William C. & Ruth A. Gaines Dissertation Fellowship in History, a Samuel I. Golieb Memorial Fellowship in Legal History and an Irving S. Ribicoff Fellowship.

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History has financed a variety of academic and journalistic research projects since 1994. In 2005, the Institute gave out $143,072 for 69 fellowships, to be used in one of five archives in New York City.

College ranks 8th for Peace Corp participation

With 21 alumni serving abroad, Middlebury is eighth among small colleges sending students to the Peace Corps. It tied for that position with Kalamazoo College and Mount Holyoke College.

Middlebury has sent a total of 408 volunteers to the Peace Corps since the program's inception in 1961. It has consistently ranked as one of the top 25 small colleges and universities with alumni serving.

The College dropped slightly from last year's rank when, with 25 alumni serving, it was ranked fifth in the nation. With so few students involved, a slight drop in numbers can cause a rather significant decrease in the College's ranking.

The University of California-Berkeley is the all-time leader in providing volunteers to the Peace Corps, topping 3,000, while the University of Wisconsin-Madison has led the nation uninterrupted for the last 20 years.

Senior's story roars onto Hollywood silver screen

"Duma," a recently-released Hollywood film about a boy who forms a bond with his adopted pet cheetah, will be shown at 7 p.m. today in Dana Auditorium. Besides being a well-received movie, the film is also the touching story of Middlebury College student Xan Hopcraft '06.

Dooms was Hopcraft's pet cheetah and was one of his few friends growing up due to the relative isolation in which his family lived — about 45 minutes away from Nairobi. When the cheetah died, it was Hopcraft's first encounter with death, and it inspired him to write a book with his mother about the experience.

The book became the basis for the movie, which opened in September. Several elements of the story have been changed from Hopcraft's personal experience, though he has stated that the movie captured the essence of his relationship with his unusual, beloved companion.

Police complete investigation

Student suffers injuries after collision with truck

By Caroline S. Stauffer
Editor in Chief

The Middlebury Police Department (MPD) investigation of the Jan. 18 accident in which a Middlebury recycling vehicle hit student Elizabeth DiCiccio '06 on the sidewalk connecting Atwater Halls A and B is nearly complete, according to Patrol Officer Ken Hawkins, who is overseeing the report.

Despite sustaining injuries in the torso area and being hospitalized, DiCiccio is back on campus and taking classes.

The MPD has interviewed witnesses Russell Johanson '06 and Teaching Assistant Michela Ronzani as well as Material Recovery Worker Chad Huntley, who was driving the vehicle at the time of the incident. Measurements were also taken after the Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Service found DiCiccio.

The MPD account is consistent with the Middlebury College Public Safety records, as reported in the Jan. 26 issue of The Middlebury Campus. Hawkins said that after testing the truck, the MPD concurred with the Public Safety record in deeming the truck's backup lights and alarm were fully operational.

Hawkins emphasized that given the distance and angle of the truck in relation to the pedestrians, any visibility from the truck's mirrors would have been impossible. He also noted that it was raining when the collision occurred. "People who were trying to get fairly quickly from point A to B would not have seen the truck as if it were a bright, sunshiny day," he said.

The only piece of the report that remains to be completed is for an investigator to question DiCiccio. The inquiry must be made in person and was delayed because of February vacation.

Hawkins has not made a cause for fault for the accident and says he probably will not do so. He noted the circumstances surrounding the accident were unusual in that it occurred on a sidewalk, but that the sidewalk is frequently utilized by College vehicles. Furthermore, because the accident took place on private property, the procedures outlined in Vermont Statute 23, on Motor Vehicles, do not apply.

Once the report is filed, any consequential action will come from insurance companies or the College. "I can't imagine that there are any other emergency lights that you could put on to make them seem more notable," Hawkins said. "I wouldn't make a recommendation one way or the other and I am hesitant to say that consequences are necessary."

Hawkins concluded that the accident, "may be one of those rare cases where two objects met at the same time and it is extremely unfortunate."

Bookstore cites cost reduction

Continued from page 1

cent of the new retail value.

"Late submission hurts students at buy-back and prevents us from acquiring and selling used books," said Conkin.

He added that while there is no specific deadline for requisition forms, faculty members are typically notified well in advance of the buy-back period, and are expected to submit in time for the College Store to process their textbook requests. The press release noted that an all-faculty e-mail will be sent out shortly outlining the aforementioned statistical improvements and alerting professors of the next buy-back, which begins May 5.

Conkin also pointed out the positive ecological implications of submitting requisition forms promptly. By purchasing and then reselling used books on campus, he said, the College Store is able to reduce shipping, which in turn reduces fossil fuel consumption and wasteful packaging.

Conkin and Best noted that, as buyers on the used book market, they face stiff competition from huge universities and that timely form submission is the best way to alleviate this pressure.

Some faculty members, said Conkin, have a history of dedication to the crusade against skyrocketing textbook costs. Truscott Professor of Chinese Studies John Berninghausen consults bookstore personnel well before the May and December buybacks in an effort to minimize textbook costs for his students. This semester, the cooperative efforts of Berninghausen and College Store employees yielded a significant cost reduction from $128.40 to $108.70 for CHNS 206 "Chinese Painting: Tradition and Innovation." The bookstore agreed to reduce the markup on three of its titles and took a 14 percent hit in the process.

That said, the College Store is also clearly doing what it can to help students bear the textbook burden. It typically sells textbooks at a 20 percent markup and trade books — anything other than textbooks — at a 40 percent markup. In an effort to mitigate rising costs for students, Conkin explained, the bookstore often slashes its trade book markup in half. For example, the price of "Stalin: A Biography" by Robert Service for History and Russian Studies Professor David Macey's HIST 404 "Readings in Russian Soviet History: Stalin and Stalinism" was reduced almost 30 percent, from the $29.95 retail price to a more appealing $21.60. The discounts for this title and others are marked with stickers on the reading lists posted in the College Store. In addition, the store is currently sponsoring a drawing to win free textbooks for the semester. Results will be announced on Friday.

The press release also cited the mathematics, religion, Spanish and physics departments as having a particularly high percentage of timely form submission and called for a continued effort on the part of all community members in order to consistently minimize textbook costs.

Statistics will be made available later in the semester regarding the expected increase in the number of used books sold by the College Store and the associated cost reduction for students.

Ready, set, volunteer!

Albert Bitici

Exploring booths set up in the Great Hall of John M. McCardell Jr. Bicentennial Hall on Monday, students investigate volunteer opporunities in Middlebury during the annual MiddAction Fair.

Chile site joins C.V. Starr schools

Jason F. Siegel

Several universities in four Chilean cities previously operated by SUNY-Plattsburgh will soon be under Middlebury's management.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the College has decided to continue with the same staff that was employed under Plattsburgh's management.

Macey explained that it is in the College's best interest to have its students attending Middlebury Schools Abroad rather than non-Middlebury schools because "we can control what happens there and I think we have high standards and only by establishing our own program can we ensure that the students meet our standards."

How, then, does Middlebury intend to improve the Southern Cone Program? Because Middlebury already held the program in such high regards, Macey said that the hope is "for students on the programs to not really see a whole lot of difference. It should be a sort of upping the ante in terms of prerequisites for getting into the program and expectations for students in attendance." These new prerequisites include requiring that students take the equivalent of five semesters of college-level Spanish before going abroad and making other minor amendments to admissions requirements. Middlebury has also imposed the language pledge and adjusted the course offerings of the program, primarily by making some changes to the journal course offered.

Justin Boren '06, who attended the Southern Cone Program while it was under SUNY management, expressed some concerns about Middlebury's acquisition of the program. He believes, "Midd will discourage the immersion process by sending large amounts of kids who are already friends into the Chilean cities. It seems that at most Middlebury programs kids report spending most of their time with American friends." Boren says that his "experience at the school was good and was total immersion" and his concerns for the experience of Middlebury students abroad in the future seem valid. However, Macey maintains that the underlying goal of assuming responsibility of the new schools is "to give our students the opportunity to be as immersed in the local university and culture as they can be."

Trustees discuss comp. fee, Axinn

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

regarding the College's endowment, budget deficits and faculty and staff salaries — the Committee "proposed that faculty salaries increase by seven percent while staff salaries increase by 3.5 percent" — the Committee discussed issues that hit even closer to the lives of students. In a survey on the comprehensive fee distributed during January, the Committee "found that there was a general happiness with the facilities on campus, namely the academic and social buildings. However, the residential buildings were an issue of concern, especially senior housing. That was something we recommended the Board pursue," said Irish.

Additionally, Irish said, the committee "highlighted the fact that the Snow Bowl doesn't check passes and that that needs to rectified." Finally, the Committee "recommended that Rehearsals Café in the Center for the Arts be downsized because it uses a ton of money and 80 percent of the students surveyed said they never had been." An element of surprise from the survey was that "a surprising number of people were not opposed to having a parking fee. We recommended that fee at $50 a semester." A last issue, which has caused great controversy among students when it has been recommended in the past, was the suggestion to close Proctor Dining Hall on the weekends, a decision the Committee "decided would be wise and prudent."

I thought that the presentation overall was very successful, mainly because we did a lot of research in our report.

—Alison Thaung '06

Alison Thaung '06, chair of the Comprehensive Fee Committee, was pleased with the presentation. "I thought that the presentation overall was very successful, mainly because we did a lot of research in our report. [Executive Vice President and Treasurer] Bob Huth is passing along the report to the administrative council," Thaung noted.

Overall, the meeting of the trustees simply furthered planning that is already in the works. Construction will soon begin on the Axinn Center, while the Board will review the planning strategies in its May meetings, according to Liebowitz.

public safety log

FEBRUARY 4, 2006 TO FEBRUARY 12, 2006

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
2/4/06	12:40 a.m.	Vandalism	Window	Turner House	No Suspects
2/5/06	5:30 p.m.	Theft	Jacket	Ross	No Suspects
2/5/06	5:50 pm.	Theft	Jacket and Bag	Ross	No Suspects
2/5/06	5:00 p.m.	Theft	Jacket and Bag	Ross	No Suspects
2/7/06	8:51 p.m.	Vandalism	Glass Window	The Mill	No Suspects
2/7/06	Unknown	Theft	Debit Card	McCullough Student Center	No Suspects
2/12/06	4:25 a.m.	Alcohol	Possession by a Minor	Palmer	Referred to Commons Dean

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY AMANDA GOODWIN

LONDON—The culture of the British Library of Political and Economic Science is unique. Its pervasive competition makes Middlebury look like a Kumbaya sing-along. Located at the epicenter of the London School of Economics campus, the library represents everything that is cutting edge about the university, in addition to everything that is simply cutting and competitive about its student body. Upon entering, it is easy to be blinded by the shiny elevators, spiral staircases and circular atrium. However, once acclimated to daily life at the university, it is equally probable that you will be blinded by a parade of fluorescent pink suitcases. LSE students have used their intellectual senses to derive a unique use for this unusual luggage — a bookshelf on wheels. When you hear the clanking of the luggage wheels against the glass library doors or see a flash of bright pink, it means the luggage brigade is in the process of conquering your reading material and occupying the library's already insufficient staff. On the LSE traffic light, pink means 'go' — an indication to Yankees that it is time to give up the battle, succumb to the pressures of competition, and grab lunch.

After the usual chicken curry soup at the local Prêt-a-Manger, you will return to find that every computer is occupied. If you are privileged enough to find a computer without being trampled along the way, there comes the multi-staged process of printing. Should you possess ample funds in your print account, which must be paid for in specialized machines in large quantities — as documents cost a pricey eight cents per page — you must then queue at the print station, only to find that in the payment interval your session logged out. Frustrated, you stomp back to your computer on the other side of the library, only to repeat the process.

If you manage to emerge from the printing station with some remnant of sanity, you might try revisiting the Course Collection — a special section of the library that reserves all required texts for classes. As you track down the call numbers and begin the academic hunt, you are rewarded with the sight of a book long missing from the shelf it now calls home. Thrilled at your accomplishment, you do not mind waiting 10 minutes on the queue to check out. As you prepare to leave the library, a huge grin on your face, a pulsating ringing noise makes you drop your cherished material and nearly knocks you off your feet. No one else flinches — after all, it is just a fire alarm. You witness students refusing to divert their eyes from their books, or if they are so lucky, computers. After six minutes of no movement, you wonder if they are testing the alarm. Then, as you prepare to leave, you observe the mass exodus. The thousands of LSE library denizens run up or down the spiral staircase simultaneously, shoving their fellow students to the side as if the fire were inches away. As they reach the card-swipe turnstiles, the bright LSE students decide it is better to elbow their neighbors while walking through the clogged entrance side, rather than use the perfectly empty exit — the effect of a curriculum rooted in laws of competition.

Outside the library, you chuckle at your fellow students' lack of concern, and conclude that the alarm was probably triggered by an overzealous student wanting to outsmart the competition. As you flip through the book you managed to rescue, your smile fades and jaw clenches as you also become the victim of competition — Chapter Two is missing!

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY LISIE MEHLMAN

NU professor denies Holocaust, supports Iran

Northwestern University Engineering professor Arthur Butz, known for his 1976 book "The Hoax of the 20th Century: The Case Against the Presumed Extermination of European Jewry" and his denial that the Holocaust occurred, recently made public his support of Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. The president, who has consistently articulated an anti-Israel stance, called the Holocaust a "myth," and, on Dec. 26 called for Israel to be "wiped off the map," prompting Butz to align himself with Ahmadinejad's beliefs. Jewish leaders fear that the support of an American professor will increase the Iranian president's credibility. Northwestern University has had to deal with the tenured professor's public, unpopular stance for decades. Al Cubbage, the university's spokesman, made it clear that the university does not agree with Butz.

"As certainly has been made clear on many occasions, Northwestern University as an institution obviously does not endorse or agree with the personal opinions of professor Butz," Cubbage said. "At the same time, however, the university does believe that its faculty members are entitled to express their own personal opinions."

—Chicago Tribune

Tulane converts cruise ship into dormitory space

Some of Tulane University's students, finally back to New Orleans after spending their fall terms at 592 different institutions around the country, returned to find their spring housing situations a bit peculiar. Along with professors and staff members, students are living aboard Dream Princess, a cruise ship converted into a dormitory. Tulane leased the Israeli-owned cruise ship, that holds 1076 passengers, in an attempt to solve its housing shortage.

While many of the ship's amenities, like pools and pool tables, have been removed, the ship's gym remains intact for residents to enjoy. Laundry service is complimentary. Tulane will not reveal the cost of this new housing solution, dubbed "cruise-ship effort," but monthly rent for students is $725.

Although the university had investigated leasing a hotel, Director of Public Relations Michael Strecker says that the cruise ship "gave us the best flexibility."

—The Williams Record

Bowdoin College museum tunes into iPod culture

Bowdoin College's Perry-MacMillan Arctic Museum now offers visitors an audio iPod tour. Museum guests can now plug their iPods in to hear the exhibit's commentary as well as sounds of the arctic north. The new audio tour was introduced in conjunction with the museum's current exhibit, entitled "This Extraordinary Paradise: Living in Northwest Greenland." The museum lends visitors of the exhibit iPods free of charge. The 35 minute audio tour can also be purchased at iTunes Music Store online.

—The Bowdoin Orient

KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT BOUNDARIES:

EXAMINING THE REVISED STRATEGIC PLANNING REPORT

A year in the making, the latest revision of Middlebury College's Strategic Plan was released on Jan. 31. The plan, titled "Knowledge Without Boundaries," seeks to re-evaluate the College's mission and chart the direction of the institution for years ahead. The hefty 63-page document is currently in its second revision, following meetings at the end of January directed at clarifying the language and goals of the initial draft.

—content by Kathryn Flagg, layout and design by Kathryn Flagg and Laura Kuhl

SHAPING THE STUDENT BODY

Recognizing the importance of the student body to the success and character of the College, the report crafts recommendations designed to generate an intellectually qualified and diverse student body. The report is also committed to increasing enrollment of students of color and maintaining a strong community of international students.

- The report recommends seeking more applicants with special academic talents and advocates using new approaches in admissions to identify students with specific academic strengths and interests.
- The report proposes an offsetting increase in the grant component of aid packages, allowing for a reduction in anticipated debt that would be greatest for students from families with the lowest levels of income.
- The report also recommends gradually moving towards a voluntary February admissions program, suggesting that the College gradually the lower the size of the Feb group while leaving the option for mid-year entrance available to interested students.

ENHANCING COMMUNITY

Highlighting the human dimension of the College, this section of the report focuses on supporting the faculty and staff at the institution. In addition to recognizing the importance of these relationships, the report notes that better support could facilitate a more fully integrated community of students, faculty, staff, alumni and parents.

- The document recommends a weekly College-wide convocation, proposing that the College set aside an hour for shared exploration and reflection.
- The report calls for increased integration of the commons system within the curriculum. The report advises the reinforced leadership role of commons heads, increased staff participation and more commons-based courses.
- The report also recommends that the College increase the funding for staff continuing their education at the school and promote and support staff matriculation at the institution and increase professional development opportunities for staff members.

CURRICULUM AND FACULTY

The report is committeed to reducing Middlebury's student-faculty ratio to approximately 8 to 1. By increasing the number of faculty on campus, as well as allocating additional resources to faculty scholarly pursuits will raise the profile of the school and improve the quality of a student's experience at the College.

- The report proposes a consolidation of the College's distribution requirements, reducing the number of distribution requirements to, at most, four of five requirements.
- The planning report proposes an elimination of triple majors and a reduction in the number of students with double majors, reducing the burden on the curriculum and faculty.
- The report also suggests utilizing Winter Term to generate more innovative courses and "quality time" for thinking and reflecting. The report suggests more off-campus, hands-on courses and independent, intensive experiences.

MIDDLEBURY'S GRADUATE AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The report recognizes the importance of the College's specialized programs, such as the Language Schools and Bread Loaf programs, to the College's commitment to education and recommends bringing these programs into a more cohesive relationship with the College and one another.

- Middlebury's programs should be more fully integrated, the new report suggests, and practice increased collaboration to maximize the resources of the College's outlets.
- The report suggests exploring possibilities for adding new C.V. Starr Schools Abroad sites to support the undergraduate institution and curriculum, including a potential future site in Israel.
- The report also recommends developing stronger ties between the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference and the College's academic year programs, benefiting both undergraduate students and visiting writers.

CAMPUS, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

The Planning Steering Committee notes the continued development of the Commons infrastructure as a priority. The report also addresses the importance of upgraded senior housing, additional classroom and office space and environmental stewardship.

- The plan proposes exploring the possibility revising the current room draw plan to allow all rising seniors relatively equal access to high quality housing until further commons infrastructure is completed.
- The report emphasizes the importance of creating a pedestrian-friendly campus by increasing the availability of alternate forms of transportation, converting Old Chapel Road to a pedestrian zone and reducing the reliance on private vehicles.
- The plan also dedicates itself to pursuing alternative energy sources, strengthening the College's environmental leadership and designing and maintaining energy efficient buildings and operations in addition to managing College lands responsibly.

FINANCES AND STRATEGIC PLANNING PRIORITIES

The report emphasizes the importance of increasing financial aid to provide better access to the College, to provide a financial commitment to expanding the faculty and to develop further the commons as the keystone of residential life.

- The report indicates that increased financial aid goals set by the new strategic plan will result in an eventual incremental annual cost to the budget of $5 million.
- Goals for expanding the faculty, reducing the student-faculty ratio and supporting intensive student-faculty interaction will result in an incremental annual cost to the budget of $4.25 million.
- Further development of the commons will result in an incremental annual cost of $4.6 million, and additional priorities outlined in the strategic plan will likely add an incremental annual cost to the budget of $1 million.

DEFINING THE COLLEGE'S STRATEGIC GOALS

1 Strengthen support for a diverse student community

The document pledges to continue to admit the most intellectually gifted students. At the same time, the planning report acknowledges the need for improved financial aid packages with a reduced reliance on loans and borrowing that will help the College continue to attract top-notch applicants.

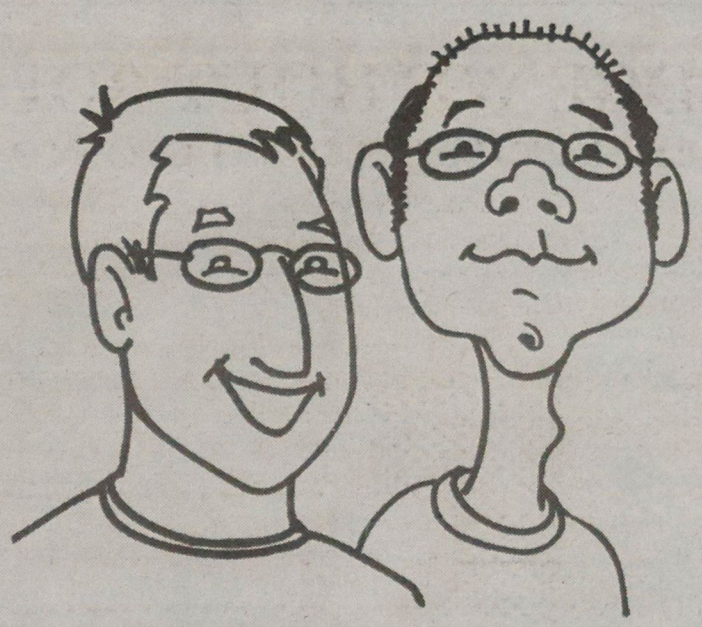
2 Strengthen the academic program and foster intensive student-faculty interaction

In order to increase the individualized attention given to students by faculty and staff, the report stresses the importance of small classes, intensive advising and a larger body of faculty. The report also proposes significant changes to the academic program.

3 Reinforce the commons as a place to blend academic and residential life

Finally, the report stresses the administration's dedication to the commons. Recognizing that many community members feel that the commons have not yet fully succeeded, the report recommends expanded programming until the College can commit financially to finalizing infrastructure.

Neil & Otto's pizza



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localnews

Off to the Senate primary races

Parke, Tarrant begin campaigns for chance to beat Sanders

By Joshua Carson
Local News Editor

Although election day is still months away, potential candidates from both sides of the aisle are throwing their hats into the ring. The 2006 election cycle will prove to be an active one for Vermont, with key elections scheduled for the United States House, Senate and Vermont State Governor.

Biding to succeed three-term Vermont Senator James Jeffords (I-VT) are, among others, Rutland Republicans Greg Parke, Colchester Republican Rich Tarrant and Independent Bernie Sanders, Vermont's current House Representative.

Although nine months remain until November's election, initial polling by Rasmussen Reports shows Sanders with a formidable lead over both Republican hopefuls, garnering support from 70 percent of Vermont voters.

Nevertheless, Parke and Tarrant go head-to-head in a primary for the Republican Party nomination this September and both men have already begun to position themselves on the issues.

Parke, now employed as a commercial pilot flying business jets for corporate executives and celebrities, served in the United States Air Force following graduation from the University of New Hampshire. He later moved on to work for the Pentagon as a Middle East policy analyst. While he has never held elected office, Parke has come out strongly on issues of military spending, homeland security and national intelligence. In a position paper in favor of increased military spending, Parke struck squarely at the voting record of Sanders, saying, "Mr. Sanders is leaving unprotected the values we cherish, our freedom and our liberty."

Parke has aligned himself closely with President George W. Bush, pledging to support the President in matters of homeland security while maintaining a balance with constitutional rights such as due process and free speech. Parke also adopted Bush's plan for immigration reform which would allow for a temporary worker program to match willing foreign workers with willing U.S. companies when domestic labor cannot be found.

Tarrant is the co-founder of IDX systems, a computer company which focuses on healthcare applications. Having sold his company to GE Healthcare, Tarrant is gearing up for the Republican primary this September and has distanced himself from the current administration on issues such as federal spending and healthcare.

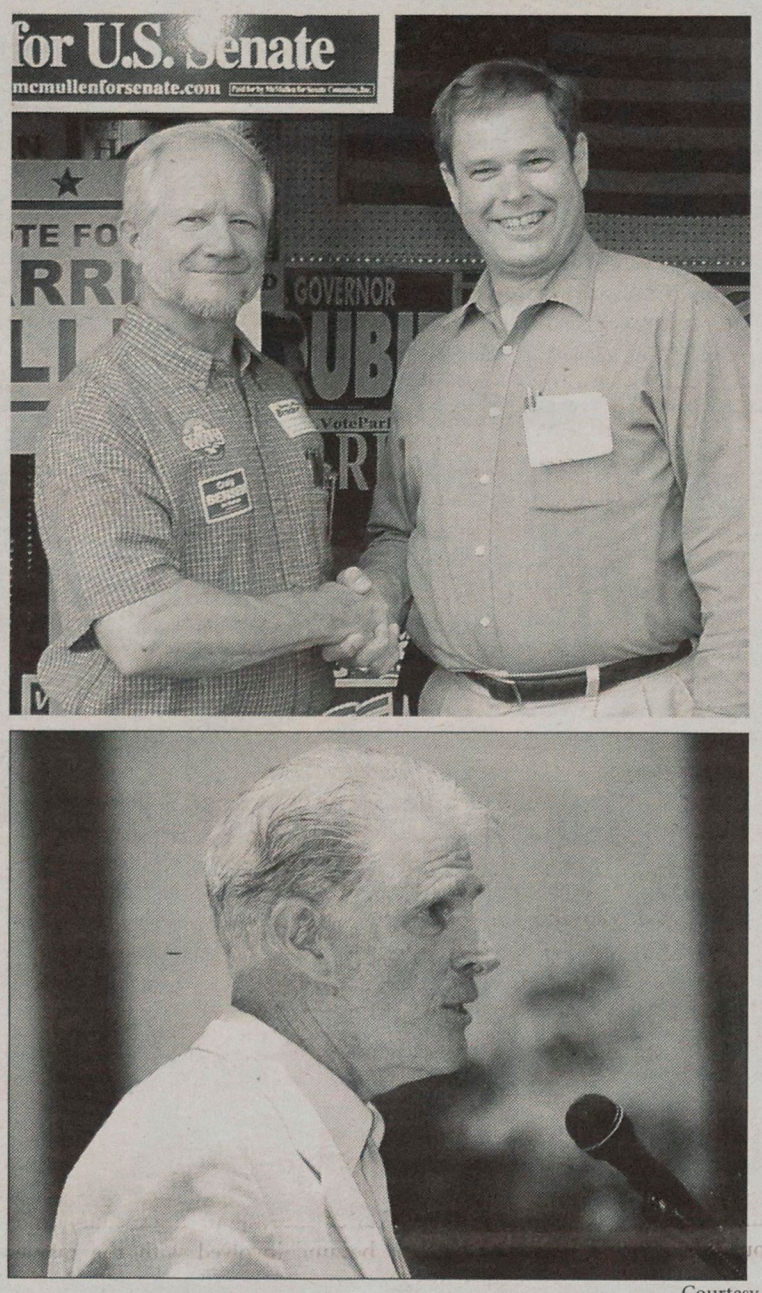
Coming from a business background, Tarrant has focused more on the domestic agenda, with healthcare towards the top of his list. Speaking with the *Addison Independent* last week, he went on record stating that the new Medicare prescription drug plan was "the worst thing I've ever seen in legislation. It's a terrible bill." The greatest costs associated with healthcare come from the delivery of care, Tarrant said. Building on his past experiences with IDX, Tarrant believes that by increasing the information flow between all of a patient's doctors, the United States can cut down on the medical bureaucracy, increase efficiency and decrease medical costs.

Speaking on foreign policy issues, Tarrant told the *Independent* that he did not have enough information to judge whether the Iraq invasion was an appropriate move three years ago. But he did mention that the United States should begin to reduce troop strength in the country to allow the Iraqis to take ownership of their country and to begin to build a democracy.

Campaign finance will likely become a point of contention in this race. Tarrant has already surpassed the million dollar mark and is heading towards two million with a personal contribution of $425,000 two weeks ago, which will be added to the previous personal contributions of $1.25 million, according to Federal Election Commission filings. Whereas Sanders is well known throughout the state, the goal of Tarrant's spending is to introduce himself, a relatively unknown candidate, to the electorate through mass mailings and television commercials.

Parke has collected over $600,000 with the help of Houston lawyer John O'Neill who also organized the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth Campaign against John Kerry, the 2004 Democratic presidential candidate.

As Tarrant himself told the *Independent*, the race for Jeffords' seat will be "the most expensive in the state of Vermont."



Courtesy

Greg Parke (top right) and Rich Tarrant (bottom) are the two most prominent candidates for the Republican Senate nomination.

8
ELEPHANTS START YOUR ENGINES
REPUBLICANS GEAR UP FOR SENATE RACE

9
MIDDLEBURY MAN WINS MEDAL
STILES AWARDED VOLUNTEER PRIZE

9
MENU MAKEOVER
GRILLE DEBUTS UPDATED ENTREES

New Febs, New Library

Courtesy / Alex Garlick

Touring the New Library, Febs participate in their orientation program, which took place over Feb Break. The Febs met with their orientation groups, chose classes and met with their First-Year Seminars, all before the rest of their peers returned from vacation.

Stiles shines at Awards ceremony

By Rachel Durfee
Staff Writer

When the College awarded its annual Citizens' Medal at the end of 2005, Al Stiles was among the most notable recipients. Stiles' extensive list of volunteer activities includes work with the Green Mountain Club, Catamount Trail Association, United States Forest Service and Middlebury Area Land Trust. More than a dozen local organizations can boast Stiles as a board member. Other notable endeavors include starting the Middlebury Tree Nursery behind the Middlebury police station, as well as building area homes for Habitat for Humanity and serving in various capacities for local chapters of the Red Cross and United Way.

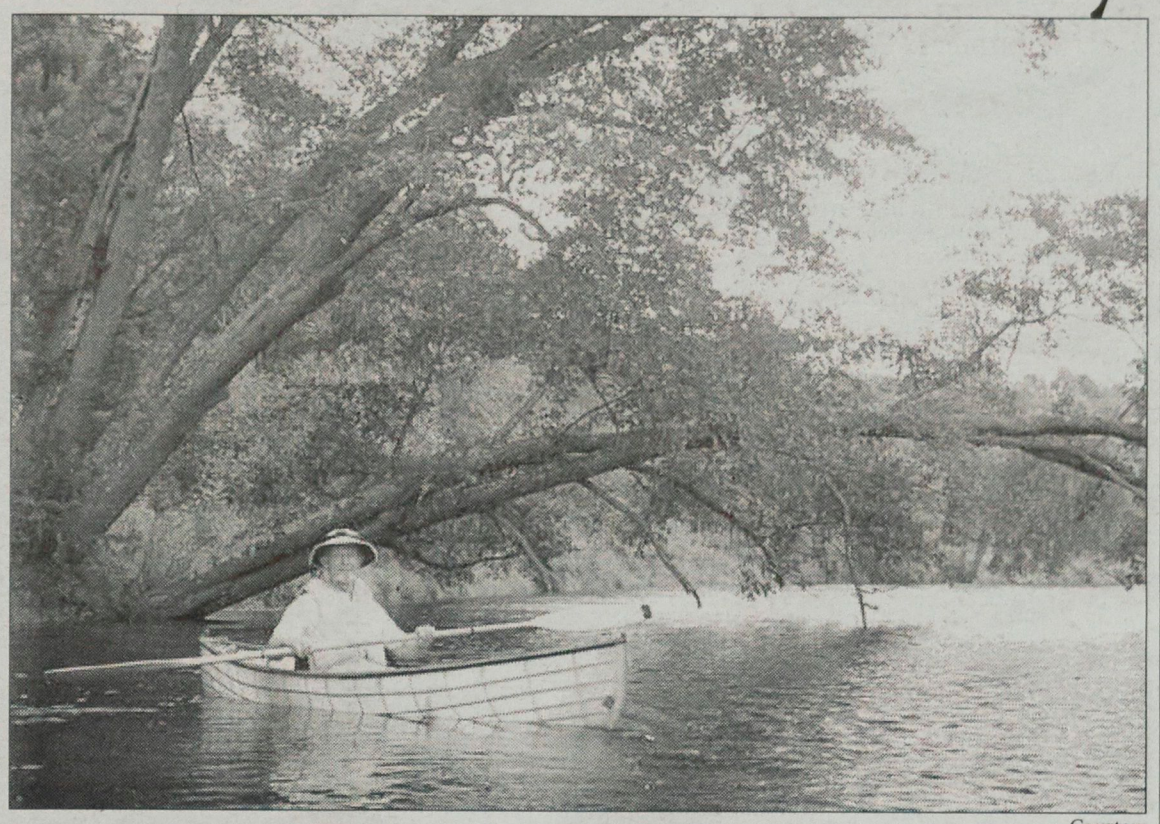
After 30 years as a Middlebury resident, Stiles shows no signs of slowing down. On a recent walk through Wright Park, Stiles was struck by the idea of creating some ski and hiking trails. A board member of Middlebury Area Land Trust, he was able to develop a ski area in the woods and add five miles of hiking trails in the past two years. When asked who and how he recruited for help Stiles replied, "Basically I do it myself. I say to myself, it's a nice day, it's bitterly cold, I'm going to go out there in the woods and do it."

Born in Washington D.C. in 1929, Stiles grew up in North New Jersey, where he later became a schoolteacher. Just after serving in the military, Stiles took a spontaneous ski vacation to Vermont, where he met his wife, Barbara, through a mutual friend. The two eventually moved to New Haven, Conn. where Stiles switched his career to data processing.

He retired early due to health problems, and he and his wife began looking for an "out of the city type of place" to retire. They looked at Burlington and Hanover but ended up deciding on Middlebury. They found it to be a uniquely harmonious fusion of residential areas and farmland. Stiles says that living in Middlebury is great because "you can't tell a lawyer from a doctor from a farmer from a shopkeeper… it's a nice blend."

Although retired, Stiles was not content to sit back on his heels. He wanted to keep busy and says he has always been "very interested in helping out other people." He began with Al's Odd Jobs, a little self-run handyman company: "I'd help little old ladies screw in light bulbs or just do whatever they needed." Says Stiles, "I know a little bit about a lot of different things," so he puts his broad knowledge to use and learns new things along the way. Following his interest in forestry, Stiles talked to the local county forester soon after moving to Middlebury and became involved with the maple sugar industry, stringing pipelines in January and February and then monitoring and repairing them as needed.

When interviewed, Stiles was most enthusiastic about past projects with the Maritime Museum in Bason Harbor in Ferrisburg, Vt. alongside Lake Champlain. When museum head Art Cohen decided to build a life-size replica of the USS Philadelphia, Stiles jumped at the opportunity to help out. He wanted to hone his skills with a new tool, an adz, similar to an axe but with the plate turned sideways in order to smooth out timber rather than chop it up. Though he didn't become an adz expert, Stiles completed the project successfully and since then he has gone on to build several seaworthy crafts, such as a 15-pound canoe and a 16-foot sea kayak.



Courtesy

Volunteer award winner Al Stiles takes his handmade canoe out for a spin near one of his wilderness projects.

> It's just fantastic, being able to have the time to indulge myself in helping others.
>
> —Al Stiles

Stiles has enjoyed a pleasant but distanced relationship with the College. He applauds the College for its efforts towards improving and maintaining the surrounding natural environment. In particular, Stiles enjoys collaborating with the Mountain Club to organize trail maintenance trips on the Long Trail and its access routes. "When you get 20 young people out, it can be quite positive, but if you only get three you can't do much," says Stiles.

When you consider Stiles' resume, which also includes past volunteer work at Porter Hospital, on the Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Service, as a reading mentor and math and science assistant in local junior high schools, among other positions, one wonders if he ever sits back and relaxes. When asked what he does in his free time Stiles responds happily, "This *is* what I do with my free time!" One of the most advantageous aspects to volunteering according to Stiles is that it allows him to be flexible and create his own schedule. But, adds Stiles, "I think the best thing [about volunteering] is that it allows me to meet very different people."

Interacting with community members from all walks of life has thrown stereotypes out the window for Stiles, who says if he has learned anything it is that you cannot judge people purely from the outside. When asked to sum up his experience as an exemplary community member and volunteer Stiles pauses for a moment before answering sincerely, "I've enjoyed my life in Middlebury because I can volunteer and do things for other people. It's just fantastic, being able to have the time to indulge myself in helping others."

THE LOCAL FLAVOR

By Andrea Glaessner
Local News Editor

For those poor souls who have visited Dr. Feel Good so many times that it has finally lost its luster, fear not. Now there is hope for taste buds burnt out on the tasty but all too familiar Grille menu. Patrons of the College restaurant were welcomed back from break with a brand new menu featuring most of the old favorites and a plethora of new items to try out this spring. The atmosphere is unchanged, but the menu is groundbreaking, featuring many more salads, an improved create-your-own sandwich menu and a slew of new oven-toasted sandwiches, many of which have the potential to become stiff competition for the Dr. Feel Good and other favorites.

The Godfather is one of the new creations featured on the oven-toasted sandwich menu. It is a sandwich packed with salami, ham, pepperoni, provolone cheese and cherry peppers. Sounds like a lot of meat, but the proportions are actually perfect. The crunchy bread complements the soft, meaty center that packs a punch with the spicy cherry peppers. This sandwich is not recommended for the faint of heart. The Godfather does not make exceptions for people who prefer mild spices, but if you can handle it, it will handle your hunger.

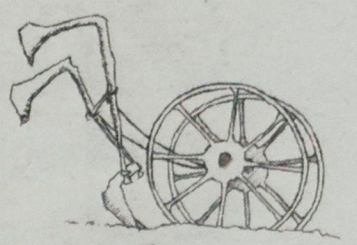
Luckily, the new menu offers something for everyone. Vegetarians will be thrilled to find a new and improved Portobello sandwich topped with onions, peppers, provolone and horseradish mayo. The homemade falafel is another great entrée for vegetarians. The dish comes with four falafel balls, lettuce, tomato, onions, dipping sauce and toasted pita bread. Do beware of the Little Nicky, a sandwich with fried eggplant and three cheeses. The eggplant was great but the cheese was still frozen in the middle. It was pretty decent, but make sure the cheese is really melted before you eat.

For health-conscious customers, there are many new salads such as the healthy salmon salad with honey Dijon vinaigrette, the delicious Szechwan stir-fry salad with black beans and the new hummus salad with grilled vegetables. There is also a new Ahi Tuna wrap with wasabi mayonnaise. The wasabi mayonnaise was delightful, but the tuna was a little dry and bears a closer resemblance to canned Chicken of the Sea rather than the advertised fresh seared tuna. It would definitely be better with more of the wasabi mayonnaise, so ask for more on the side.

If you're just looking for a quick snack, all the favorites are still there, except the pizza bites. Choose from mozzarella sticks, fries, sweet potato fries or Ethan's Vt. Cheddar fries. The cheddar fries are not really new, but the name is, and perhaps they are an improved version of the old standard cheese fries. Another great new addition is that fries can be substituted for the usual potato chips for just 75 cents.

And if you want to order for a crowd, The Grille makes pizzas that can be ordered ahead of time. Middlebury suffers from a lack of good pizza, and although The Grille is no New York City pizzeria, the pizza is decent. For a mere $12 you can get a large pizza with toppings to your heart's content or a large "white pizza" that rivals Neil and Otto's infamous pizza sticks.

So if you are like so many others suffering from mid-year culinary boredom you need not walk further than McCullough to find a respite from the dining hall blues.



Rural Banter

BY ERICA GOODMAN

Certain stereotypes add flavor to the landscape of country living. Rural life is not always depicted with the same nostalgia that is sometimes used to try and resurrect a romantic way of life associated with small town living. Certain stereotypes taint the picturesque scenes of cornfields whistling in the breeze and cows silently munching on the green, grassy hills, offering instead a life clearly backwards from the norm.

First off, there are the many and multiple names for those people who must suffer an existence "in the boonies." "Hick." *n. Not very intelligent or interested in culture .* Hicks tend to be distinguished by a lack of sophistication deriving from their ruralness. Tall and sometimes awkward, the great NBA basketball player Larry Bird comically referred to himself as the "Hick from French Lick" to conjure up an image of small-town humility. "Hillbilly." *n. A person from the backwoods or a remote mountain area.* Sometimes hillbillies strike it rich while shootin' at some food and move on to Beverly Hills. But as the exploits of Jed, Granny, Elly May and Jethro showed television audiences, a move to the big city can be a tough adjustment. Small town dwellers are just too simple, too attached to their 12 guage shotguns and rusted-out pickup trucks to enjoy the bright lights and bustle of the city.

Country folk, it seems, have even developed their own rural language. In "hick" or "hillbilly" jargon, contractions and combined words abound. Mom will bust out of the kitchen and holler to the family, "Yenz gonna come getcha suhm'ta eat, hain't ya?" And most likely, the menu consists of something very greasy and artery clogging, or even roadkill stew Granny Clampet style. And *"ers"* replaces the end of most nouns. "Windows" become "winders," "potatoes" translate into "potaters." And you are never going there or buying something, but rather goin' ther or buyin' sumpin'.

Then of course, the style of the century, the infamous mullet. A venture to any bar in any small town in the United States would not be the same without the site of at least one unbalanced coif. Short hair on the top of the head and long hair in the back, the mullet is a haircut that has come to be mocked and almost universally ridiculed and unrightfully assigned rural roots. Sure, country singer Billy Ray Cyrus sported the 'do back in his height of popularity. But so did Mel Gibson in all the Lethal Weapon movies, as did tennis star Andre Agassi.

How true are hillbilly labels? Living in the middle of nowhere certainly has its downfalls. But rural dwellers are not, contrary to popular belief, exempt from Darwin's theory. Listening to country music and sporting cowhide leather boots is far from a sign of evolutionary deadlock. We country folk have our quirks; that is the truth. But really, don't we all?

opinions

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Editorial

Swimmers / Divers appropriately punished

If social houses are required by College policy to make pledge a sober process, it follows that athletic teams should be held to the same, if not even stricter, standards for their recruits. Coach Peter Solomon's desire to respond quickly and severely when he became aware of the men's swimming and diving team's violation of clearly explicated team policy in regards to alcohol is therefore right on target.

The prevention of College athletic teams from participating in competitions due to alcohol violations is a rare, though not unprecedented, action. Because the last drastic incident occurred when the Rugby team had an entire season cancelled in 1996, it was perhaps time to reemphasize to Middlebury athletes that hazing and violating team policy is unacceptable behavior. That such a wakeup call had to come at the cost of the remainder of the men's swimming and diving team's season, however, is extremely unfortunate.

Though the situation is not a happy one for any party involved, from a disciplinary perspective it is ideal. Coach Solomon - with the support of the College athletic director - set team policy and punished the team when his expectations were not met. Athletes should answer to their coaches, and team disciplinary procedure need not follow a bureaucratic review process when violations occur.

Coach Solomon had clearly articulated his expectations to his team with respect to alcohol, and he had every right to act as he did when these directions were not followed. All coaches should follow suit and discuss alcohol and hazing with their teams, and emphasize the consequences of failing to meet team behavioral expectations.

While the argument against punishing the entire team when everyone may not have been responsible for the violation of team policy could be made, allowing only some swimmers to continue their season would have jeopardized the team spirit of collegiate athletics, not to mention the inherent difficulty of discerning which individuals were or were not involved.

Athletes must remember that as students at Middlebury College, they are held to higher standards on multiple levels than athletes at many other schools. The first assumption under the Intercollegiate Athletics headline of the recently released Strategic Planning report is that "Athletic programs should be fully consistent with [the College's] core values of academic and intellectual excellence, and should teach students how best to achieve overall good health and well-being."

The College champions the balance of athletics, academia and personal character. Such expectations must not be compromised by reckless hazing activities, whether they discovered and accounted for or not.

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The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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HEARD ON CAMPUS

ONCE I BECAME AWARE OF THE DRINKING VIOLATIONS, I WANTED TO MAKE THE CONSEQUENCES QUICK AND SIGNIFICANT.

— Men's Varsity Swimming and Diving Coach Peter Solomon

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

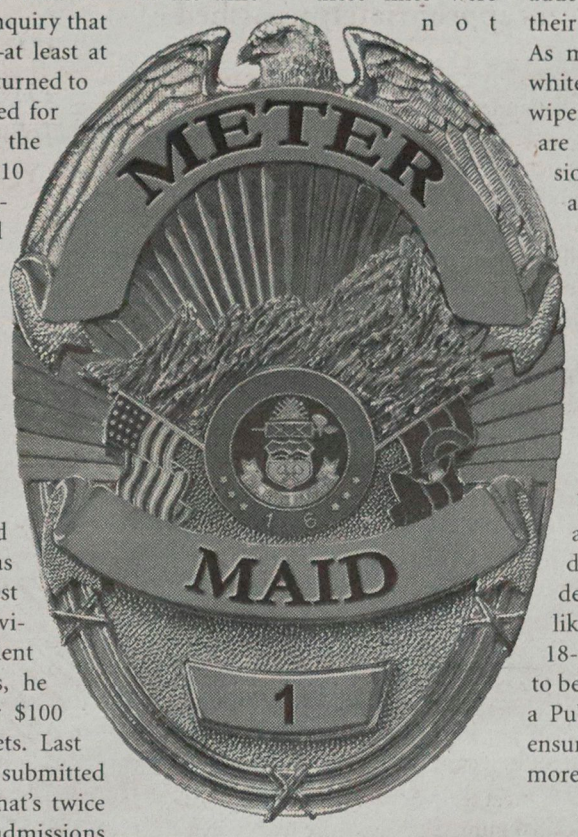
As many of you know, I was fortunate enough to spend the fall semester at Middlebury College as a visiting student. I now attend Tulane Unviersity in New Orleans. I would like to take a minute to thank everyone involved in making my stay at Midd such a wonderful experience. I am glad to have had the chance to involve myself in such an exciting and intellectual environment. Whether or not I am able to return to Middlebury in the fall is irrelevent, either way I am eternally grateful for the friendships and acquaintances I have made along the way. Thank you so much for helping me with this chapter in my life.

Jen Bowen

Public Safety, or glorified meter maids?

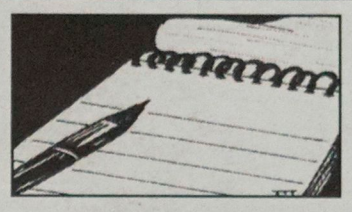
I have a great amount of respect for the role that Public Safety plays on our campus. But at Middlebury, I believe that they act more like meter maids than cops. In my experience, I have found that a student who parks his car in front of McCullough for 10 minutes at 8 a.m. on a Monday has committed a graver offense than a student who drinks underage. In the most recent edition of *The Campus*, the Public Safety Log stated that "between Jan. 3 and Jan. 22, the Department of Public Safety recorded 14 incidents of possession of alcohol by minors." I can't imagine that any student, faculty or staff on this campus honestly believes that in the course of almost three weeks, only 14 underage students were drinking. Yet, I would bet that in that same three-week period, five times as many parking tickets were given out to students.

It even seems as though Public Safety pays no attention to temporary clearances and authorizations that students have received for parking. Before beginning *The Campus* delivery route one morning last year, I specifically made a call to Public Safety and requested that I could park in undesignated spots for short periods of time while delivering the papers, an inquiry that they willingly granted—at least at the office. But when I returned to my car after being parked for three or four minutes at the Gifford gate, I had a $10 ticket awaiting me. Luckily, although it seemed unnecessarily bureaucratic, I was able to appeal this ticket. In an extreme case, a senior who had permission to park in spots closer to his dorm because of an injury, received so many unwarranted tickets that his car was towed and booted just before he was informed that he had lost on-campus parking privileges. Although this student reclaimed his privileges, he was forced to pay over $100 for the unjustifiable tickets. Last year, a different student submitted a 1,000 word appeal—that's twice as long as a Middlebury admissions essay—simply to ensure that he would not have to pay for a ticket claiming that he was parked outside of designated lines. Of course, at the time these lines were not visible under the layer of snow that, needless to say, had not been plowed well enough in the lot.



Now that parking tickets are added straight on to the tuition bill, their effect is even more removed. As more and more students find white slips of paper under their wipers every day, fewer and fewer are experiencing the repercussions. I am almost certain that any parent would rather have the school reinforcing their children's resolve to "just say no" than reminding their children that there is $10 fine if you park in the wrong direction in front of Painter. I am by no means encouraging Public Safety to step on the toes of social life on campus by giving out more citations and I also do not condone students parking illegally or in undesignated lots. However, I feel like something is wrong when an 18-year old can get drunk enough to be taken to Porter hospital while a Public Safety officer is on duty ensuring that there are no sophomores parking in senior lots.

DEB TENNEN '06
ITALIAN AND RELIGION MAJOR
FROM CANTON, CONN.



NOTES
FROM THE DESK

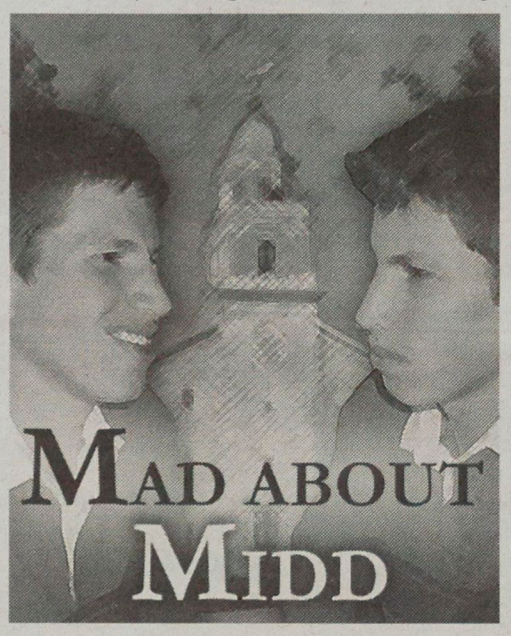
It's unsettling to think that the publication of this, our first issue of the spring 2006 semester, signifies the beginning of the end for my four-year career as an undergrad pseudo-journalist. What's truly terrifying, though, is the thought that in approximately 13 weeks I'll be flung ingloriously into the real world, armed only with a Middlebury College A.B., a portfolio of Community Council *Campus* articles and Mr. Painter's imitation cane.

Though I've spent much of the past four years shrouded in a self-styled and disorienting cloud of academic jargon and scholarly pretension, working as a *Campus* writer and editor has always been my guiding light of practical knowledge. It has fueled my career aspirations, sparking glorious dreams of one day deposing Mr. Arthur O. Sulzberger, Jr. and seizing the reins of *The New York Times*.

Unfortunately, realizing such dreams has become more difficult than ever. The journalism industry is inexorably shrinking at a most inopportune time. For me, at least. The print media sector in particular is scaling back tremendously in terms of human resources, making it even less likely that a reputable newspaper will even consider hiring me as a fact checker or coffee boy. And it doesn't help that I'm plagued by incessant career-related inquiries from friends and relatives. How tragically ironic that the skill set I've acquired as a student journalist — my one practical defense against the powers of inane academia — will now be rendered valueless by diminishing industry.

Can I fall back on my chosen field of study? Most people don't seem to appreciate the practical utility of a Classical Studies degree, though I would argue that Goldman Sachs could always use another energetic young Latinist. Trust me, there is money to be made in noun declensions.

THOMAS C. DRESCHER
MANAGING EDITOR



The Big Easy ain't easy

By Dave Barker
OPINION COLUMNIST

Curiosity drove me to New Orleans last week. My aunt didn't end up in a FEMA trailer. My roof didn't land in another zip code. I knew as much about the Big Easy as I did about the Big Dig, which is to say, very little, coming from the Pacific Northwest. I joined four friends with similar questions and landed in Louis Armstrong Airport with an address for the taxi driver, 1614 Pauline Street.

A week later, I can tell you why I went. You should also ask the close to 30 other Middlebury students who demolished houses, built houses, worked with kids, cooked meals, and spent money at businesses like the Maple Leaf Bar over J-Term and February break.

Jen Williams '08 decided to skip spring semester to continue working for the Common Ground Relief Organization on Pauline Street. Ask any of the 12 students from Associate Professor of American Literature and Civilization Will Nash's J-Term course that spent a week there why you should go. If they leave you unconvinced, try the eight students who were a part of the Middlebury Alternative Break trip. Sarah Applebaum '06, a New Orleans resident who went with Nash's J-term course plans on returning over Spring Break with a group of friends. Forget the Dominican Republic. You should go too.

Why go to New Orleans? Why buy an airplane ticket that will take you to a city where fewer than 20 percent of residents have returned? Why take the taxi to Pauline Street to work for Common Ground, a grassroots organization started in early September in one man's yard? From the morning meeting at Common Ground you'll be shipped into neighborhoods in the Lower Ninth Ward or in St. Bernard Parish to gut the interior of houses so they don't have to end up in the scoop of a bulldozer. You'll enter the houses clad in a tyvex safety suit and with a respirator clamped to your head. Expect to find glasses in the cabinets and light fixtures full of water. You might find a remote control lying on a moldy bed and a newspaper from Aug. 27 warning of an approaching hurricane, as we did. Why work in this toxic environment?

The residents who have come back provide the answer. People like a St. Bernard Parish resident named Bailey, who fled to Minnesota and returned to gut and rewire his house because he has lived in the city all his life. Talk up your taxi drivers, who are optimistic even while they drive you past the thousands of houses with a spray-painted diagram indicating whether any dead humans or animals were found inside.

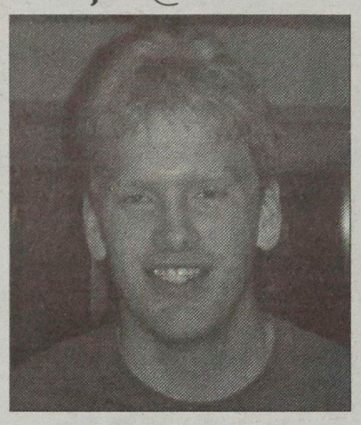
These friendly and generous residents love where they live. No other city in America has such a high population of native-born residents. No other American city has such distinct traditions and culture as Mardi Gras, Creole cuisine and jazz funerals. "If you don't rebuild, the cultural cost is so great," said Nash.

Go to save a city, but know that you'll be enriching yourself and your education. "Getting out of what's comfortable is what's valuable about liberal arts," said Nash. Dan Berkman '06.5 gutted houses over Christmas break and returned with Nash's class. "Helping someone rebuild their house is a lot more important than an 'A,'" he said.

Go to New Orleans to listen to a local jazz band, to pound nails alongside the future homeowner, and to meet the returnees. "When you're in academia, you have tunnel vision. When you're there [New Orleans] you connect to the people and it's about the broader picture," said Emily Egginton '06 who spent three weeks in the city during J-Term.

I am still curious. How could you not go?

The Middlebury Campus online poll



"YEAH."

—HAYDEN THOMSEN, '07.5

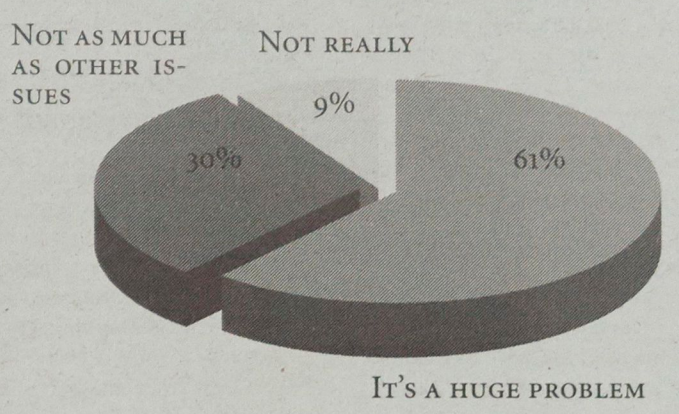
"IT IS MORE OF A PROBLEM THAN IT USED TO BE, BUT I DON'T THINK THE TEMPERATURE SEEMS TO BE INCREASING AS OR OIL CONSUMPTION INCREASES."

—PRISCILLA SINCLAIR '07

"IF YOU'VE GOT GAME THEN GLOBAL WARMING IS NOT A PROBLEM."

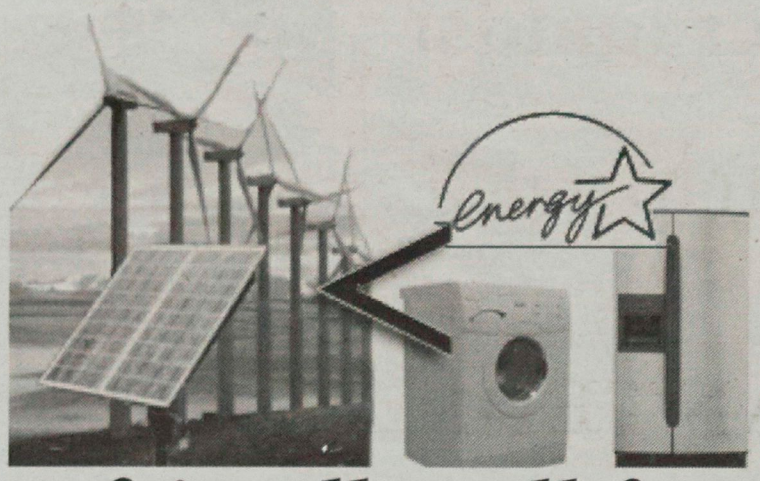
—MOLLI FREEMAN-LYNDE '08.5

DO YOU THINK GLOBAL WARMING IS A REAL PROBLEM?



Results based on 57 responses collected February 14 at the Grille

NEXT WEEK'S POLL QUESTION: WAS THE MEN'S SWIM TEAM'S PUNISHMENT WARRANTED?



A friendly call for institutional responsibility

A week before Feb break, I attended a lecture at the Ilsley Public Library in Middlebury on "off the grid" energy systems given by Paul Kenyon, a mechanical engineer and freethinker from nearby Bridport. One of his big messages: it's possible to live in our modern world without paying the state for electricity. But while Paul's talk was clearly an exposition of some hip alternative energy systems so in vogue these days in crunchy, and even not-so-crunchy, circles — solar panels, wind turbines and composting toilets, to name a few — it was also a reminder that some of the most effective sustainable solutions available to us are in fact more accessible than we think, if a little less glamorous.

Take refrigerators, for instance: Paul calculates that installing an efficient fridge is the most practical step an Addison County homeowner can take towards lowering energy use — even more practical than installing a wind turbine or a solar panel. Likewise with storm windows and insulation — the energy savings are remarkable. If homeowners want to save money and reduce their ecological "footprint," he says, it makes more sense to spend a few weekends retrofitting existing appliances and fixtures than it does to pay someone to install a sexier, more aesthetically "environmental" gadget like a turbine.

This is not to say, of course, that wind turbines or solar panels are in any way a *bad* thing. But Paul's point is simply that they're often not the *best* thing, at least in the short term, for reducing energy use.

Silly as it may sound, this was a revelation for me. Like so many people in our college, town and country, I have been trained to equate "greenness" with technology I don't understand (hybrids, "clean" buses, biodiesel). Plus, I'm no homeowner, so I haven't yet learned how to glorify humdrum home improvement. Thus, sitting down after the lecture, I ran up against a tricky dilemma: how to apply these homesteader's principles to my own uber-bureacratic existence?

Well, Middlebury College is a much bigger home, which usually means it's more energy efficient than a smaller one. But the problem is that most of its residents don't pay the energy bill, at least directly, making it dangerously easy to live on campus without paying attention to energy consumption, both personal and institutional.

With our heads lost in the Middlebury bubble clouds, after all, it's easy to interpret a few well-publicized examples of on-campus do-goodiness as sign that we're "environmental" enough. A library built from local, sustainably harvested wood, a wind turbine and a green roof atop the new Atwater Dining Hall all indicate that the College is living up to its international reputation for ecological awareness — superficially, at least. It's hard to force ourselves to go beyond Middlebury's public facade to determine whether our institution is actually walking its own institutional walk or not.

And indeed, upon closer look, there's a lot out there to warm our little green hearts. Thanks to a few committed Sunday Night Groupies, the college recently agreed to lower thermostats by 2 degrees, from 70 to 68, for a projected savings of approximately $60,000. Another bunch of Sunday Nighters is working with President Leibowitz and the trustees to address the disturbing fact that neither the faculty nor the student body has any idea where our endowment is invested — Shell? Philip Morris? Lockheed Martin? Take your pick! Dining Services continues to set the national bar for environmentally conscious food service. And in a less publicized but equally important gesture of responsibility, the college has begun to replace a portion of our heating oil with locally harvested woodchips.

Great! It's nice to be reminded from time to time that people in positions of authority often mean what they say. But of course, we can go further. For starters, the college can retrofit off-campus homes with more efficient insulation, continue working towards socially responsible investment practices, and purchase even more local food.

As students, we too can take more responsibility for the way we live. Of course, no one is forcing us to keep our windows closed in winter, eat all the food on our plates, or take the Snow Bowl shuttle — but those things are easy and sensible, so why not make a conscious effort to do 'em?

I don't intend this article as a condescending dose of eco-fascism. Instead, let it be a friendly call for institutional responsibility on the part of students, faculty and administrators alike. Efficiency's the thing, says Paul: Let's take his advice and make sure the college community does all it can—not merely all it's obligated to—in its ongoing quest to exist in a way that makes the most sense.

MIKE IVES '06.5
AN INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR
FROM LARCHMONT, N.Y.

A war zone within our borders

When I was in New Orleans with my J-Term class last month, there were many shops on Bourbon Street selling T-shirts backlashing the government's response to Hurricane Katrina. The slogans' ranged from "FEMA: the new four-letter 'F' word" to "I looted this shirt during Hurricane Katrina". But the T-shirt that resonated most with my classmates and me had the motto: "Make Levees, Not War." Yes, America is at war with terror abroad, but this government does not realize our country is already being attacked by natural disasters.

I would equate the damage inflicted by Katrina and the levee breeches to a war zone. The force of power from flood waters caused cars to be overturned, houses to be torn away and families to flee as refugees. Hurricane Katrina has left close to 1,500 people dead with many more still missing. Since the storm, army vehicles and police continue to roam the streets after the city curfew looking for looters or "suspicious looking characters".

This administration is adamant about finding terrorists before they can attack our county, but at what cost? In the most recent State of the Union, President Bush spent 36 minutes talking about foreign policy, but devoted only six sentences to Hurricane Katrina. I think it is important to defend this country from terrorism, yet I think it is equally important to allocate money and manpower to the more tangible threats. New Orleans is not alone in battling the threat of a natural attack.

As our country grows in population, along with the rest of the world, people move to areas more prone to natural disasters. And as cities grow in population, the social and economic impact from disasters becomes greater. Miami is vulnerable to hurricanes, Seattle to volcanoes and almost any place in California for a variety of reasons (earthquakes, tsunamis, etc.). In other words, New Orleans is just one example of a city which has been expecting "the Big One."

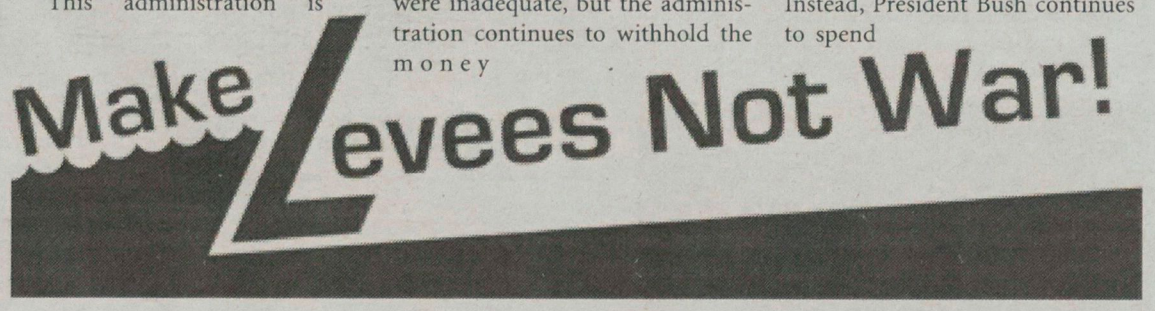
New Orleans is a unique city because it lies 12 feet below sea level on average at the base of the Mississippi River delta. If the Mississippi River levees ever broke, most of the city would be underwater. Luckily, the river levees remained intact during Hurricane Katrina. The man-made levees on the street and industrial canals, which drain into Lake Pontchartrain, broke and eventually flooded the city.

In other words, Hurricane Katrina was a horrible natural disaster that tore off rooftops and crashed trees onto houses and lawns. But the levee breeches and city wide flooding which ensued were responsible for the black mold and the eventual loss of homes and property. That was a man-made disaster which could have been averted. The government not only knew the levees were inadequate, but the administration continues to withhold the money required to re-build those levees to higher standards.

Not only were the levees not adequate enough to withstand a Category 3 Hurricane (by the time the hurricane made landfall), but the levees are still in ruin and the next hurricane season is less than five months away. The current $1.6 billion repair effort includes building pump stations along the canals and temporary gates at the mouth of Lake Pontchartrain. But this repair job is a band-aid. The repair does not include plans to make the levees higher (which would be necessary because the flood waters came up and over the levees) or a buffer wetland zone which could take the brunt of an incoming storm. A long-term plan of that magnitude would cost upward of $30 billion.

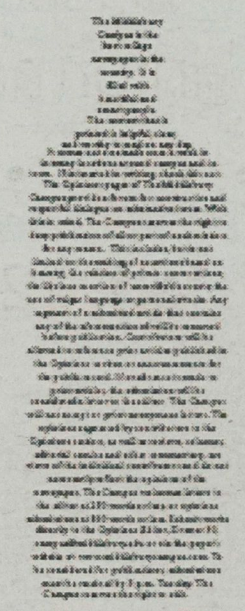
Most of that money has gone to the war in Iraq instead, which has cost 240.5 billion dollars so far. It does not take a math major to figure out that part of that money could have been better spent on revamping the New Orleans and Louisiana levees. In fact, the Army Corps of Engineers' levee construction projects over the last few years have seen federal money trickle down to nothing due to pressures of the Iraq War and Homeland Security. That is the same Army Corps of Engineers that had promised the city of New Orleans levees and floodwalls which would be sufficient enough to withstand a category 3 Hurricane.

The Army Corps of Engineers and specifically the government department in charge of allocating the money for building the levees should take responsibility. Furthermore, it seems that Washington should bear more costs for the current levee's reconstruction process. Unfortunately, that is not the case. Instead, President Bush continues to spend money outside our borders when we need protection from within.



With the levees still in ruins and storm seasons occurring every year, it is hard to foresee New Orleans withstanding another hurricane of equal or greater magnitude in the near future. Still, the people of New Orleans are trying to rebuild their great city. People are coming home to reconstruct the levees, their homes and their lives. They make shirts to show their resolve. One Midd parent proudly wore a "Returnee" shirt. Another shirt with the words of "Make Levees, Not War" could not be a more direct message to our administration.

DAN BERKMAN '06.5
A GEOLOGY MAJOR
FROM PHILADELPHIA, PENN.



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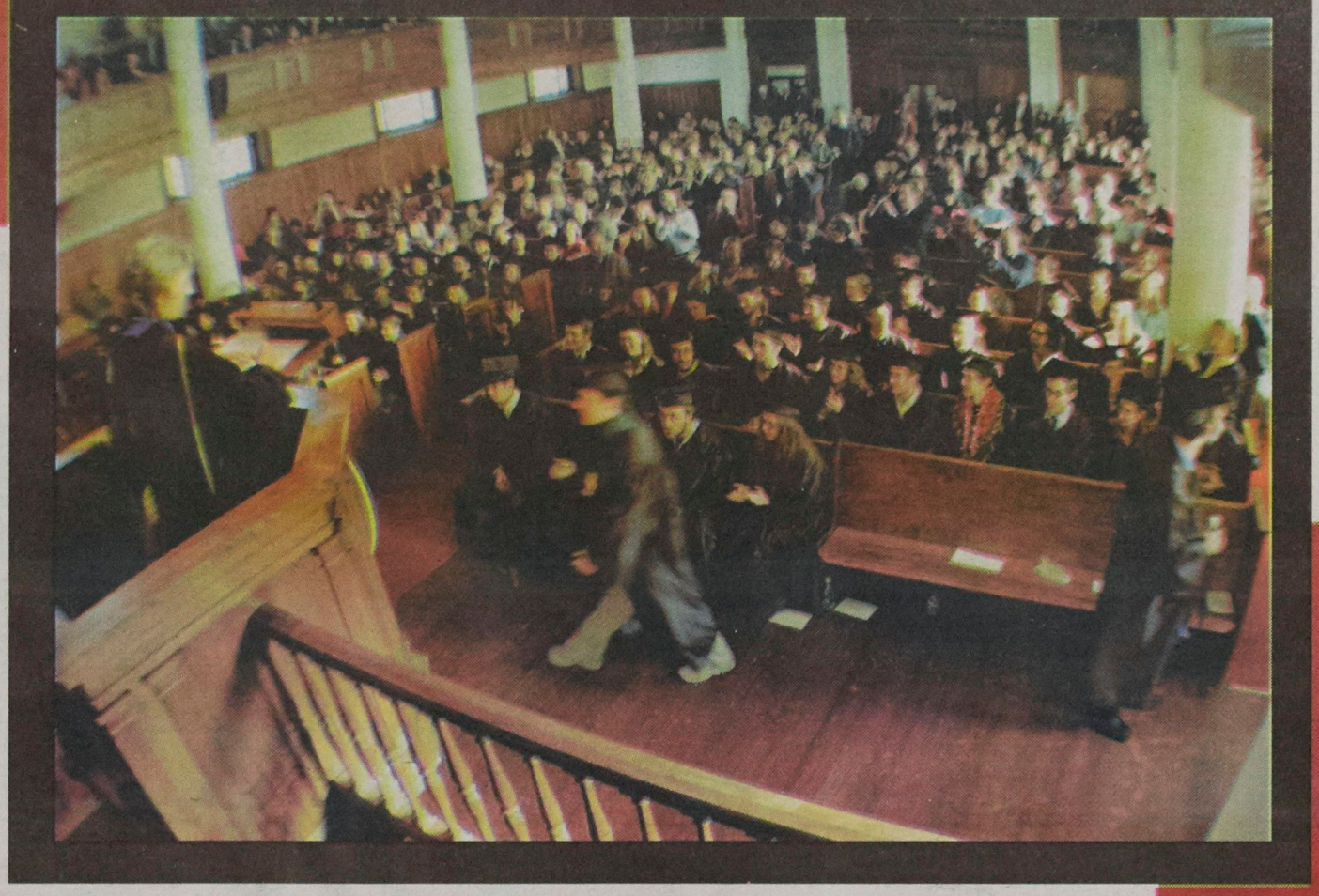


Photos by Vlad Lodoaba

Some 96 Middlebury students fêted the end of their time at Middlebury by participating in the annual February celebration on Feb. 4. The ceremonies are held to recognize the achievements of the mid-year graduates, who do not officially receive their diplomas until March 1.

The night before, the celebrants gathered in the Center for the Arts, where they heard President Emeritus John M. McCardell, Jr., who was president for most of their tenure at Middlebury, give a speech in the Concert Hall.

The graduation ceremony took place on an unusually warm Saturday morning in Mead Chapel. After an opening welcome from Chaplain Laurie Jordan '79, the Febs heard a speech from classmate Jeffrey King '05.5. King spoke about the advantages of being a Feb. By virtue of being Febs, they already had the opportunity to experience the "real world" in its multiple dimensions during the nine months before entering college. Though King directed his remarks at those students who were truly Febs, more than one-third of the mid-year graduates did not enter Middlebury in February 2002.

At the conclusion of King's speech, Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson presented the Jason Fleishman '03.5 Award to Daniel Stone '05.5. The award recognizes leadership and Feb and College pride, among other qualities, and anyone who entered in February 2002 was eligible. It was founded last year in memory of Fleishman, who died the day after his February celebration from meningococcal disease.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz followed by giving a speech, "Make for Yourself a Teacher," a lesson from the ancient book of the Mishna. Directing his speech to the first group of post-Sept. 11 Febs, he extolled the values and lessons conferred by a Middlebury liberal arts education. He encouraged students to continue what they had done at Middlebury by seeking out the strengths of their teachers and making them their own, learning how to learn from others and thereby preparing themselves for the challenges of this century.

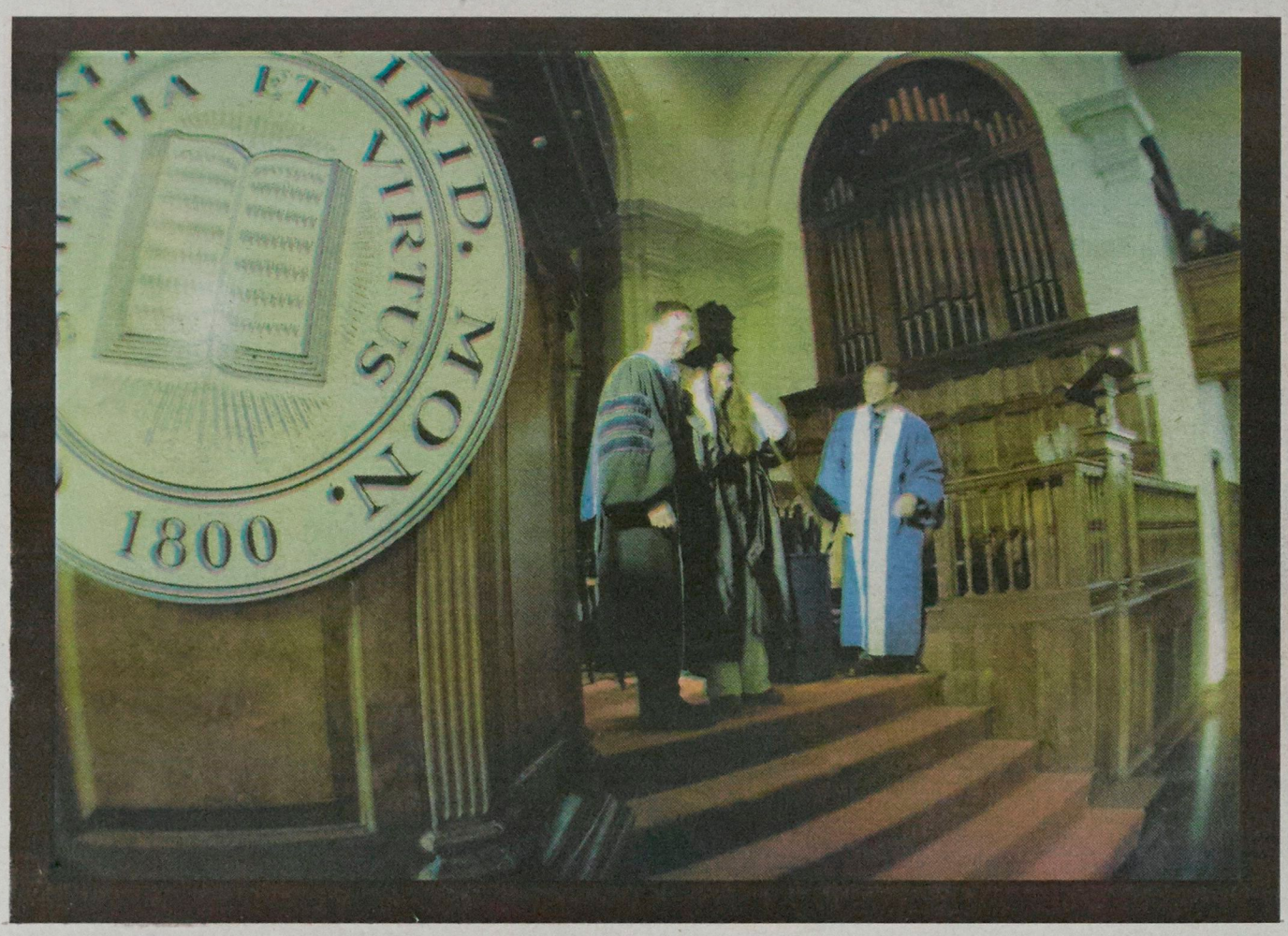
There were many students disappointed by the speech, since Liebowitz had used it months before at the May graduation ceremony. In an e-mail to *The Middlebury Campus*, he responded, "I believe the message in the address is an important one...Since very few Febs attended last May's Commencement, I wanted to share this message with those students who had not heard it in May, but who did begin their studies either during the events of Sept. 11, or a few months later."

After the ceremony, in which the celebrants received their replicas of Gamaliel Painter's cane, the trademark symbol of one of the College's most important founders, they went to the Snow Bowl for the traditional ski-down in caps and gowns. Most of the celebrants participated, both on skis and snowboards, led by several faculty members.

The celebration came at a particularly sensitive time for the Feb program, which is currently under examination by the Planning Steering Committee. Based on feedback from the College community, the Committee has recommended that the Feb program be an entirely voluntary process. As it stands, the Admissions Office allows students to indicate a preference of September or February admission, but retains the ultimate power of deciding in which semester a student may matriculate. The Feb program also creates problems for students in various areas of College life, including course registration, housing and beginning highly structured majors in their first spring semester.

Despite these flaws, this year's February celebration demonstrated that Febs are proud of being Febs, and cherish the time they spend at Middlebury.

—Jason F. Siegel
Focus Editor



2006 Feb

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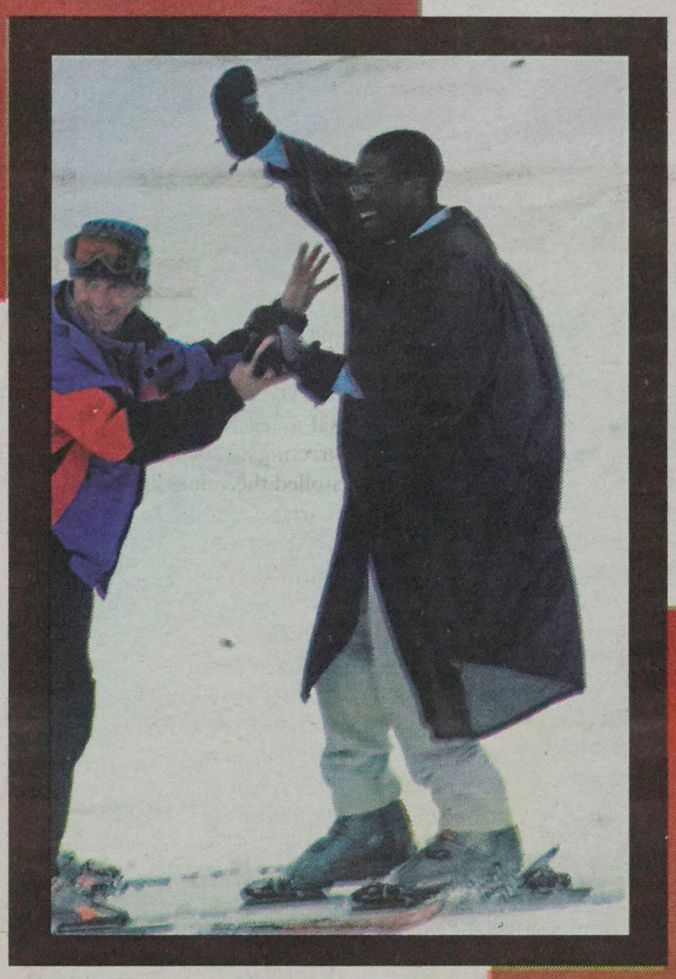
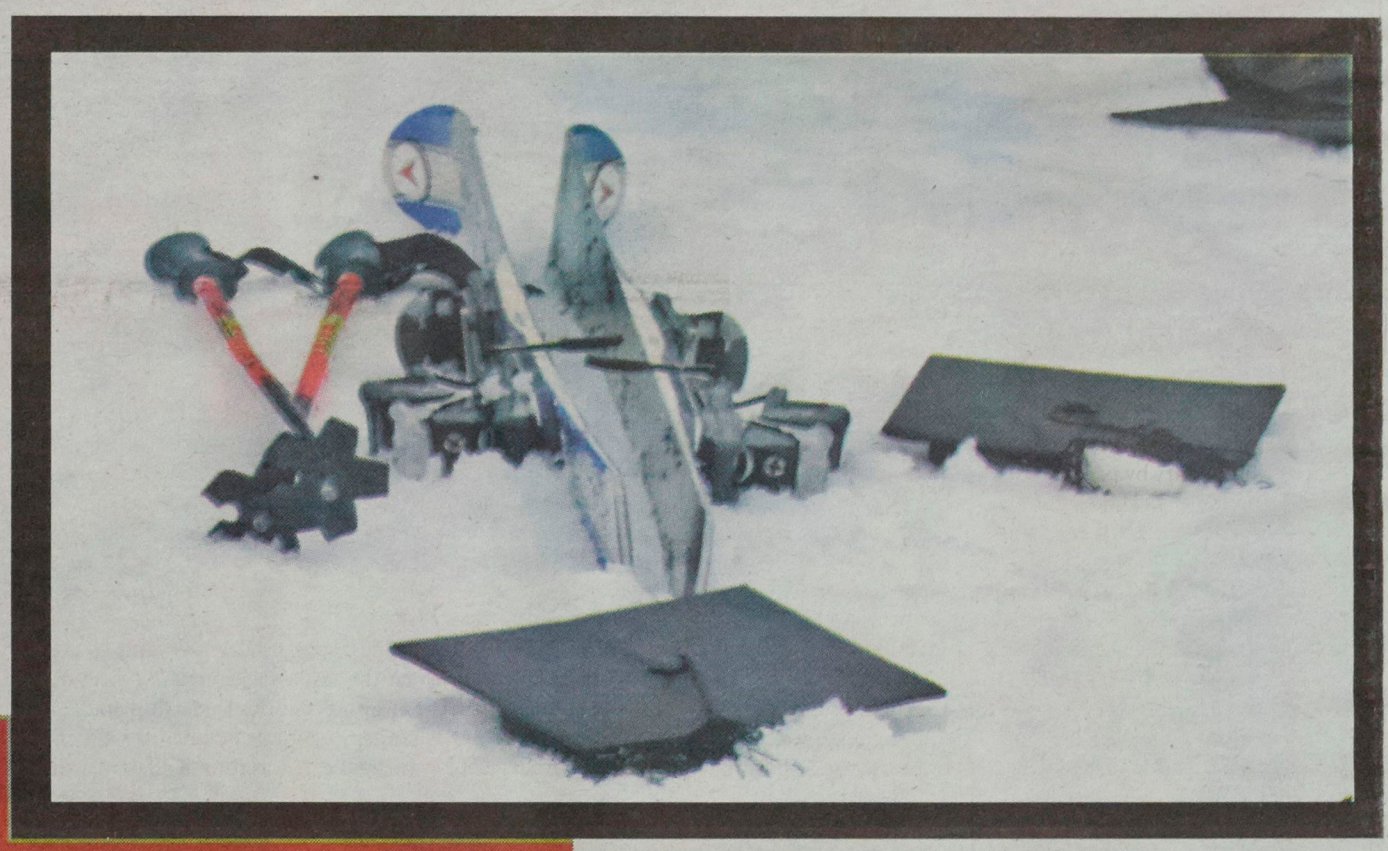
Ski-downs





Celebration

features

Winter Carnival: Past and Present

Discovering some of Middlebury's lost winter traditions

By Mike Murali
Staff Writer

The winter season has always been known to bring out the competitive side of Middlebury students. From the founding of the College, winter sports have been prevalent on Middlebury's campus. Following this tradition, the introduction of a Winter Carnival following the winter term of 1934 was a step forward for the College, a proclamation that the student body would stay dedicated to the spirit of the season.

The first annual Middlebury Mountain Club Winter Carnival began on Saturday, February 10, 1934, and lasted through the following Monday night. That first winter ball at Middlebury included a performance by the proudly vulgar country artist Larry Pierce and an orchestra accompaniment. The competitions culminated with a tea and dance party at the Middlebury Inn on Monday evening.

Though competitive skiing existed at Middlebury long before the creation of a Winter Carnival, students often found themselves leaving campus to attend the carnivals of other colleges so that they could compete and eventually qualify in the NCAA. The decision to start Winter Carnival at Middlebury eliminated the need for students to compete at other campuses and instead brought the festivities closer to home for students.

> Some of the events at the first Winter Carnival in February, 1934 included ski joring — in which competitors raced one another on skis pulled by galloping horses — as well as ice skating, bobsledding, Nordic skiing, ski jumping and showshoeing.

Some of the events at the first carnival included ice-skating, ski joring (in which competitors on skis are pulled by a galloping horse), bobsledding, Nordic skiing, ski jumping and snowshoeing. During the first years of Winter Carnival, winter sports typically began in the mornings with a break for lunch and concluded with a campus wide activity held in the evening.

As the tradition of Winter Carnival became more established, so did the daily schedule. Carnival schedules from the 1930s show the only difference today is the replacement of Monday with Thursday afternoon and all of Friday, making a four-day rather than a three-day weekend. Explaining why students eventually got Fridays off, Center for Campus Activities and Leadership Director Doug Adams cited the massive numbers of students who were reported to have skipped classes to watch the sporting events taking place.

Though many of the events from the original Winter Carnival have been removed, such as ski jumping, ski joring and snow shoeing, the weekend nevertheless remains filled with a spirit of athleticism: the tradition is maintained today with the Nordic and alpine skiing qualifiers.

Through the decades Winter Carnival has always been about the spirit of winter and celebrating the season. This year is no exception, as the carnival kicks off Thursday night with an ice show. Following this on Friday afternoon, there will be a snow festival sponsored by the Japanese Club and a cultural gala that evening. In keeping with the celebration of competitiveness at Middlebury, top collegiate Nordic and alpine skiers will compete in regional qualifiers for the NCAA on Friday and Saturday. The weekend will end Sunday witn a Bread and Puppet Theater Performance.

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MALT TRIPS
MIDDLEBURY STUDENTS HEAD TO JAMAICA, NEW ORLEANS

15
WINNING IN A WINTER WONDERLAND
WINTER CARNIVAL'S COMPETITIVE HISTORY

The Art of Igloo-Building

Vlad Lodoaba

Because of the lack of snow, the J-term workshop "SNOW SHELTERS 101" taught by Andrew Hale '06 and Lynne Zummo '06 neary disappeared from the activities of many snow-fort-building enthusiasts.

But thanks to the unexpected fluctuations of Middlebury's J-Term weather, students soon delighted in the reveries and lessons about many "essential backcountry winter camping techniques," according to the student guides.

In addition to discovering the art of building snow shelters, participants had the chance to learn several life-saving techniques in a simulated backcountry environment right on Battell Beach.

The quinzee and snow adventure also scheduled a "slumber party" where students could spend the night in their enthusiastically taught makeshift igloos.

Students Reflect on MALT New Orleans Trip

Courtesy

As a component of her community service trip, Baonnie Hemphill '08 plays games with children in New Or-

I'm from New Orleans — born and raised there my whole life — and I felt heartbroken, confused, angry and helpless after Katrina. I was actually at school already when Katrina made landfall, but my immediate reaction was to pack my bags and head down to the city right away. Obviously this wasn't realistic, but it was agonizing for me to sit in a seat of comfort and safety thousands of miles away as my fellow neighbors were starved and drowning.

I had done a MALT trip to New York last year to work with an immigrant and refugee resettlement organization, so I figured that a MALT trip to New Orleans would be a perfect avenue to direct my energy and help the city. I designed the trip back in September, and once it was approved, we hit the ground running with planning, fundraising and all the organizational madness that goes into that sort of undertaking.

Our time in New Orleans was incredibly busy. We worked with an elementary school called Good Shepherd School. Good Shepherd serves students who are all below the poverty line because they believe that education is the critical piece in breaking the cycle of poverty, racism and ignorance in our society.

At the school, we led art and writing projects with the students in order to focus our attention away from the trauma of the hurricane. We did a cultural exchange centered around the differences between New Orleans and Vermont because many of these students have never seen snow, a cow or a farm before. It worked really well — we fell in love with the kids, they loved the time we spent with them, and we were all sorry when it came time to go our separate ways.

In the afternoons, we went to a neighborhood that received water damage, but will definitely be rebuilt One big issue in the rebuilding plan is whether some neighborhoods should be allowed to rebuild at all!. We worked at a community center, where our main task was to fully gut the house of an elderly man named Mr. Gerald. It took the whole week and it was quite a lot of a hard work, but we pulled it off. Mr. Gerald couldn't afford to pay contractors to gut his house and the government certainly wasn't giving him any money. Another project at this site included working on the construction of an organic garden, which will act as a community garden in the area. Our group built an impressive brick pathway.

"We worked at a community center, where our main task was to fully gut the house of an elderly man. It took the whole week and it was quite a lot of a hard work, but we pulled it off."

In our "spare" time, we attended lectures on the media, the environment and culture. We also toured the city so that everyone understood the extent of the devastation. I would strongly encourage the whole student body to go to new orleans. There's still so much to do, and we have a responsibility as college students that we don't always live up to.

— Emily Peterson

While the initial shock of Hurricane Katrina may have receded in the minds of many Americans, our MAlt trip deeply impressed upon us that New Orleans and its inhabitants are still in dire need of financial and moral support.

Our experiences at the Good Shepherd School and McMain High School made it clear that the younger generation has been scarred by this tragedy as many students we worked with expressed frustration and anger at the lack of assistance their families received from FEMA and the Red Cross.

Even during our short stay, we met displaced students that had just returned from neighboring states and heard about others as they struggled to live in cramped conditions in hotel rooms and trailer houses. In the afternoons, we worked on Mr. Gerald's house in the Bayou St. John area, gutting out the sheet rock and wood panels that have been damaged by the floodwaters and the ensuing mold. While it seemed at times that our efforts were futile as there are hundreds of thousands of houses in the area that require similar treatment, it dawned upon all of us that it will take individual, small-scale efforts, such as ours, to help rebuild the city of New Orleans.

— By Ilhan Kim

Courtesy

Middlebury students worked to gut and re-build the structures of several New Orleans homes struck by hurricane Katrina.

Jamaica plays host to Midd social activists

MALT sparks social dialogue

MALT Jamaica did not start when we landed on Jamaican soil. Ever since we were chosen we recognized that we had a mission. We had much training and fundraised to a point of aggravation. We ended up in Jamaica and civic dialogue was at the core of our actions. Our leaders Angelica Towne and Lemar Clarke created four hypothetical approaches to solving Jamaica's problems, which we learned were crime, corruption, lack of unity and a negative mindset, to engage in a dialogue essentially to promote Jamaicans becoming active citizens in their communities. In conjunction with the United Nations Development Program's Civic dialogue Project, we spoke to people in economic situations, rich and poor or uptown and downtown, as Jamaicans would say. The common ground that the Jamaicans came to was that through whatever means, they hoped for a safe and prosperous Jamaica. We spoke to hundreds of high school students and in addition to the civic dialogue we took the students through a short tutorial oN how to get into college in the United States; we called it success in higher education. I learned, I felt fulfilled and I enjoyed myself. Through all of the work that we did to get there, I think I speak on behalf of everyone in MALT Jamaica when I say that it was worth it.

—By Aifuw Ehigiator

Courtesy

Student volunteers take a minute during their Civic Dialogue Project. Top right: Peter Abrikian (alumn), Colleen Sullivan '07, Nicholas Spengler '09, Angelica Towne '08, Cordelia Ross '09, Luisa Covaria '09, Karen Bullock '07, Carol Wilson '07, Jan'l Hastings-Robinson '09 and Charly Nixon '06. Not included in the photo were Antoinette Rangel '09 and Lemar Clarke '08.

BY MATT KUNZWEILER

Over the years Carlo Rossi — the world's most beloved jug of wine — has convinced me to pull some outstandingly humiliating stunts. He's whispered sweet-nothings into my ear and massaged away my inhibitions until I've been midair between my trampoline and hot tub, moments away from suffering a bruise of the most embarrassing size, color and location. Carlo loves adventure, occasionally at my own expense. And that doesn't change the fact that he's my wingman.

But Carlo hates Pub Night. And it's not just because of the random dude from my 9 a.m. class who invariably slaps me on the shoulder and yells, "Can you believe it, man? Free Labatt!" Carlo hates Pub Night because it's plagued by another and more threatening manifestation of awkwardness: hippie dancing.

Hippie dancers, you are upsetting me and my friend, Carlo. I realize you feel liberated by driving eight hours to a jam band concert, loosening the waistband on your fannypack and wiggling your body and arms like a small child who has just downed four adult servings of Sudafed. But if you want to feel liberated, do so on your own time, in seclusion. Just know that Carlo needs an exciting venue for his patented tom foolery — and Pub Night is lame enough as it is. It simply can't sustain your deathblow of weirdness.

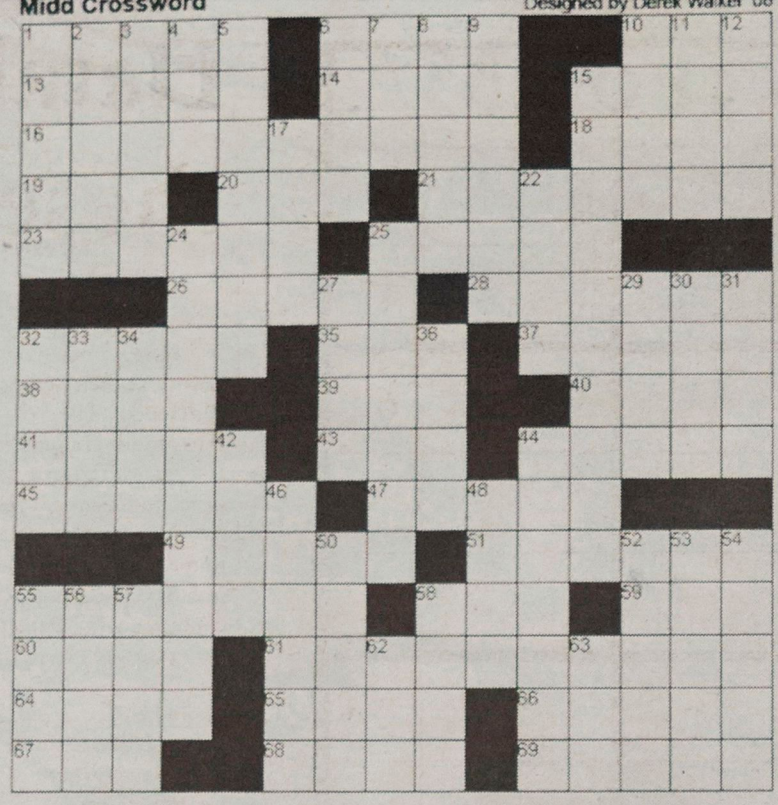
Then again, hippie dancing isn't nearly as disappointing as raving, a fad which (thanks to the slow hand of karma) is finally on the way out. One time Carlo and I accidentally ended up at a rave. Pointing to the ranks of dancing drug test dummies, some raver girl yelled into my ear, "This warehouse is their chapel. The pyramid of speakers is their alter. And those standing closest to the alter are the most spiritual, beautiful people you will ever meet." Carlo was not a happy camper.

But how can you dislike Carlo? — with his indefatigable sense of adventure, his complicated sense of humor, his endearing surliness. Admit it, he has a dynamic personality. And at one point in time haven't we all wondered…if Carlo Rossi could talk, what would he say? Well he can speak. I've heard him. After a dud of a weekend, Carlo (what a character!) once said to me the following:

"Sure, drink me dry and don't recycle me. You think I like that kind of treatment? — that kind of abuse? Of course I don't. That's just not the ideal us. Remember The Giving Tree? You and me are kinda like the kid and the tree, respectively. Write a book about that. You fancy yourself a writer, huh? Well that, my friend, is your big story right there. The Giving Rossi — wait, no, Travels with Carlo — agh, we'll work on the title. But hold on a second — why write a kiddie book when you can write a historical fiction thriller? You gotta think about the market. What's hot right now? Stories with big revelations, that's what. And your big twist at the end — are you ready for this? — I was the wine at the Last Supper. Carlo Rossi is the blood of Christ. Boom. What do you think of that? Move over, Dan Brown, you picked the wrong Italian to write about. By the time the ink dries, everyone will be reading The Carlo Rossi Code on the airplane while drinking the eponymous Chablis in flight. Cross-marketing. Sell, sell, sell. And what are they all reading six months later? De-coding The Carlo Rossi Code, written by — wait for it — you. Once again, boom. We'll split the profits 60/40 — in favor of Carlo. Nah, I'm just kidding, you take the 60."

Midd Crossword

Designed by Derek Walker '06



ACROSS

1 I _____ (can do it)
6 Miss. Senator Trent
10 1968 Offensive
13 It may be Golden
14 Double-reeded instrument
15 Way of doing
16 February event at 15 Down
18 Thought
19 Hallwn. month
20 Nshville. state abbreviations
21 English cities, White Fang authors
23 Not the women but _____
25 Against scarlet color
26 Wear down
28 Pay
32 Things, in Barcelona
35 The loneliest number
37 Fasten again
38 Did like raw metal?
39 Arcade game for the foot loose?
40 Veggie burger brand
41 Respond
43 Ending for carp- or sch-
44 Old Germanic letters
45 Belonging to someone other than him
47 Pave again
49 Unknown authors (abbrev.)
51 Regardless…
55 Gangster's Midd e-mail address
58 Large deer
59 Fed. assoc. for farmers' losses
60 Carry
61 Part of 16 Across
64 Hydrated silicate gem
65 Dutch cheese
66 Reason for not accepting a return
67 Old boys
68 Comfort
69 Shades between black and white

DOWN

1 Slang
2 Walk in step
3 What Vermont is
4 ___al-Fitr
5 Ones promoting something
6 Parts of auctions
7 With –wan, Jedi Knight
8 Means of doing something
9 High male parts
10 Type of list
11 Nice garden
12 Steeped drinks
15 See 16 Across
17 _____ domine
22 Not far
24 Locale for part of 16 Across
25 Ones selling
27 Extinct bird
29 "That weighs ____!"
30 Staple crop
31 Positive votes
32 Staple crop
33 Sandwich cookie
34 Place for rear
36 Author Stanley Gardner
42 Nickname for designer Rudolph
44 Place in line
46 Price for male child?
48 Speak
50 Require one
52 Put to paper
53 Door-to-door sales corporation
54 Other halves, Chinese dualism style
55 Smallest building block
56 Deal with
57 "At the beach I got ____"
58 Nickname for Hunchback's gypsy
62 ___ relief
63 Type of sleepy mouse

Solutions: Page 17

World Briefs

— By Caroline Vial

No sex before suffrage

"Are you faithful?" inquired the European radio station RTL 102.5 to Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, who responded, "I have often been faithful." Flighty or not, this answer was followed by Berlusconi's promise to observe a "total sexual abstinence" until the country's general election on April 9. Sue Emittenza promised Priest Massimiliano Pusceddu not to use his body toward any ungodly ends, who congratulated the politician for his defense of family values during an electoral meeting in Sardinia. "Good thing he did not postpone the elections," notes the Corriere della Sera.

— *Corriere della Sera*, Milan

Coincidental fate

A Soviet-built An-24 plane operated by the Slovak military crashed into a mountain in Hungary on January 19h, killing 42 people, mostly peacekeepers returning from a NATO mission in Kosovo. .

The sole survivor, Martin Farkas, was using the restroom when the aircraft proceeded to crash. Incidentally, Farkas was carrying a four-leaved clover in his wallet, remarks the Hongarian agency MTI.

— *Courrier International*, Paris.

V-day controversies

St. Valentine's Day, celebrated around the world on Feb. 14, has been unable to escape controversy.

Chinese authorities who are suspicious of the religious origins of the celebrations, according to BBC News, confiscated flowers from passers-by. Conservative Hindu protesters in India disrupted festivities in public areas, as they consider Valentine's Day to be an alien Western import and anathema to Hindu culture.

Yet, neither ideological objection nor militant intervention appears to have been able to check the growing international popularity of this day.

— *BBC News*, London

Stupefying results

There seems to be plenty of snow at the jet-set Alpine Swiss resort, Saint Moritz, where during high season, up to 1,400 lines of cocaine are inhaled every day. The institute of pharmaceutical and biomedical research in Nuremberg performed the tests on December 29 and 30, on used waters. Traces of benzoylectgonine, a derivative of cocaine, were found in the urine of consumers.

"Everybody says that cocaine is a rich person's drug. We wanted to verify this ourselves, and what is a better place than Saint Moritz?," said professor Fritz Sorgel to the Sunday Telegraph. "The results were unbelievable."

— *The Sunday Telegraph*, London

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

FEB GRADUATION	LIEBO'S GRADUATION SPEECH
The best graduation Midd has ever seen.	According to the handbook, turning in the same paper for two classes is plagerism. So what is giving the same speech at two graduations?
GRILLE'S NEW MENU	DINING HALLS
So many more drunk night choices!	No sushi yet.
SQUASH	SWIM TEAM HAZING
Good sound, good sport.	How many Midd swinners does it take to be suspended from NESCAC (again?)

	6		1		4		5	
		8	3		5	6		
2								1
8			4		7			6
		6				3		
7			9		1			4
5								2
		7	2		6	9		
	4		5		8		7	

— www.sudoku.com

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

Database posts theses online

By Ian Schmertzler
Staff Writer

Using a newly-available online database, college seniors worldwide can now post their senior theses for viewing by professors and their fellow students alike. The Web site, UGResearch.org, was developed last year by two Dartmouth graduates.

According to a statement on the site, the database's purpose is to "advance independent research at the undergraduate level." The Dartmouth '05 co-founders, Peter Notebloom and Jeffrey Iacono, said they are still working to make more content available on the site. Said Notebloom, "We [now] have over 100 theses; the longest paper is 219 pages." Contributing universities include Amherst, Dartmouth, Harvard, the University of London, Princeton, the University of North Carolina and the University of Linz in Austria.

The co-founders believe the database will prove beneficial to students hoping to avoid repeating previous research, as well as to those who might use other students' theses as a stepping stone for their own work. Despite this potential, however, Notebloom explained that a lack of publicity is preventing further growth. "Most campuses still don't know about the project," he said.

Notebloom said that he and Iacono planned to improve their situation through an inter-collegiate publicity campaign aimed at student news organizations; with increased publicity, he explained that the two hope to enhancethe database itself and to increase the number of visits it receives. Progress is being made in other areas as well, he said. "We're working with about a dozen undergraduate journals to create a comprehensive database of undergraduate journal articles," he said. "The journal database should be up and running by March 1st."

In terms of funding, the two founders have been maintaining the site in their spare time and financing it themselves. "We have had promising conversations with college librarians about funding, but we actually aren't very concerned about money right now," said Notebloom. "The Web site is inexpensive to run and we have an all-volunteer workforce. If students at every college are willing to volunteer and create more of a grass-roots campaign, we'll never need very much money for the site."

Notebloom stressed that alumni — including Middlebury's recently-graduated Febs — can still add their theses to the database, since part of the Web site's growth strategy is to make its services available to all college students, both past and present. "We'd love it if Middlebury students would check out the site and upload their research. UGResearch is a great opportunity for [college students] to show off the quality of their undergraduate research," Notebloom, said.

Midd Crossword Solutions

ACROSS
1. AMSET
6. LOTT
10. TET
13. RATIO
14. OBOE
15. MODE
16. GRADUATION
18. IDEA
19. OCT
20. TNS
21. LONDONS
23. THEMEN
25. VSRED
26. ERODE
28. SALARY
32. COSAS
35. ONE
37. RETIE
38. ORED
39. DDR
40. BOCA
41. REACT
43. OOL
44. RUNES
45. NOTHIS
47. RETAR
49. ANONS
51. ANYWAY
55. ACAPONE
58. ELK
59. RMA
60. TOTE
61. FEBSKIDOWN
64. OPAL
65. EDAM
66. NOTAG
67. MEN
68. EASE
69. GREYS

DOWN
1. ARGOT
2. MARCH
3. STATE
4. EID
5. TOUTERS
6. LOTS
7. OBI
8. TOOLS
9. TENORS
10. TODO
11. EDEN
12. TEAS
15. MIDDLEBURY
17. ANNO
22. NEAR
24. MEADCHAPEL
25. VENDORS
27. DODO
29. ATON
30. RICE
31. YEAS
32. CORN
33. OREO
34. SEAT
36. ERLE
42. TINO
44. RANKING
46. SONFEE
48. TALK
50. NEEDA
52. WROTE
53. AMWAY
54. YANGS
55. ATOM
56. COPE
57. ATAN
58. ESME
62. BAS
63. DOR

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arts

19
SPOTLIGHT ON DICK FORMAN
JAZZ MUSICIAN REVIVES STUDENT JAZZ BAND

19
'REDISCOVERING MIDDLEBURY'S PHILOSOPHICAL INSTRUMENTS'
STUDENT-CURATED EXHIBITION OPENS IN LIBRARY

20
STUDENT MURAL BRIGHTENS BATTELL
PAINTING PROMPTS PUBLIC ART PUSH

'The Bewitched' enchants at ACTF

By Ellen Grafton
Staff Writer

Albert Bitici

Meghan Nesmith '06, Alex Draper '88 and Alec Strum '08 perform a scene from 'The Bewitched,' which garnered much critical acclaim at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

Albert Bitici

The proud cast of 'The Bewitched' celebrates after many participating members gleaned awards and recommendations for their impressive work at the annual Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

On Feb. 1, while most Middlebury students traveled across the country to begin their February break, the cast and crew of "The Bewitched" trekked to Fitchberg, Mass. for the latest performance of their epic show. The performance was part of the 38th annual Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) Region I in which colleges around the northeast compete in various forms of theatrical expression. The Middlebury students who participated garnered numerous awards and recommendations. "The Bewitched" was the only show out of the Northeastern region to be held over for consideration for national competition.

The festival was held at the Four Points Sheraton, Fitchberg State College and Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School. "The Bewitched" and all other shows that performed at the Region I competition had been previously selected out of the shows in the New England area by festival judges. All the shows at the Region I level were competing to be selected to attend the national festival at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. in April.

The cast and crew of "The Bewitched" arrived in Fitchberg the afternoon of February 1. The rest of the day and part of Thursday was spent unloading the set and costumes, setting up the dressing rooms, laying the floor, running set changes and technical scenes, and adapting the sound and light systems to fit the show's needs.

Director Richard Romagnoli commented that the technical crew "worked hard and overcame significant technical problems not identified by the in-house crew. They did very well in adapting the show to the new space." The theater in Fitchberg lacked some of the technical niceties of Wright Memorial Theater including the backstage access to the area beneath the stage used by Alex Draper '88, Stephanie Strohm '08 and Julia Proctor '06.5 at the beginning of the show. To retain their original entrance the actors had to take their places under the stage before the audience arrived. Claire Groby '08 of the technical crew said, "It was hard working in a new space and not having a chance to run the show at all, because we had some difficulties with some of the shifts during the show, but we pulled it off excellently."

"The Bewitched" was performed on Thursday, February 2 at 8pm. The audience included the four national KCACTF judges and members of other schools competing in the festival. In addition, each show that performed at KCACTF was assigned two regional theater experts who watched the show and responded to it the next day. Romagnoli expressed some disappointment at the assigned responses that "The Bewitched" received. He noted that the two critics assigned to the show did not seem familiar with the text of "The Bewitched" nor the theatrical style of Peter Barnes.

"We presented a show that is representative of the work we do and the type of theater we study at Middlebury."
-Richard Romagnoli

The audience's response to "The Bewitched" was very positive. Romagnoli noted that a number of people who had seen the show for the first time at the festival came up to him afterwards and remarked on how much they enjoyed it. "The performance went without a hitch and was very well received by the audience," said Romagnoli.

During the week, Middlebury actors also participated in the Irene Ryan acting competition. The actors competing in the Irene Ryans had been selected from performances in college-level shows over the past year. At the regional level, over 100 actors presented scenes and monologues in a series of elimination rounds in hopes of being selected for national competition at the Kennedy Center in April. Middlebury sent Bill Army '07.5, Laura Harris '07 and Alec Strum '08 for performances in "The Bewitched," Rebecca Kanengiser '05.5 for her performance in "Necessary Targets" and Retta Leaphart '06 for her performance in "The Last Night of Ballyhoo."

Harris, one of two actors selected from Region I to go on to the national competition at the Kennedy Center, spoke highly of the experience. "It's always valuable to hear what a new audience member has to say because their opinions aren't clouded by any previous knowledge of or relationship with the performer," said Harris. "It ended up being a pretty grueling experience with daily rehearsals and very early morning calls, but in the end, the practice that we got as well as the way that the entire Midd contingent rallied together to support all the Irene Ryan contestants made all those tough moments fade into the background."

Throughout the week Middlebury students also entered competitions in playwriting, dramatic criticism, set, lighting, and costume design and dramaturgy. A number of Middlebury students brought home awards. Aaron Gensler '08 won first place in the Region I Scenic Design Competition for her set design for "The Dining Room." Paul Doyle '07 won the Region I National Critics Institute Award as well as the Region I Dramaturgy Award for his work in "The Bewitched." Christina Galvez '06 won the Kennedy Center Award for Scenic Design for her set design in "The House of Yes." Toral Patel '09 was the runner up for the Region I Costume Design Award. Courtney Swanda '06 won first place in the Region I Costume Design Awards for her costume work in "The House of Yes." Laura Eckleman '05 won the Kennedy Center Award for Lighting Design for her design work in "The Last Night of Ballyhoo." Haylee Freeman '06.5 was the first alternate for her lighting design for "The House of Yes." Katie Polebaum '06 won the USITT Technical and Craftmanship Award for the Audrey II plant puppet she built for MCMP's "Little Shop of Horrors."

When asked whether the week had met his expectations, Romagnoli said, "If 'The Bewitched' is chosen for competition at the Kennedy Center, that's great. But even if we aren't, I feel we benefited from the experience. We presented a show that is representative of the work we do and the type of theater we study at Middlebury. Everyone worked very hard and we did what we needed to do. They gave a great performance and should be proud."

Spotlight on...Dick Forman

Dick Forman, who began his long, intimate journey with music at a young age by playing classical piano, is a dedicated member of four-man Dick Forman Jazz Group and regularly teaches jazz at Middlebury College and around Vermont. Now, as he embarks on the revival of a project called Sound Investment for student jazz, he takes time out to speak with *The Middlebury Campus*.

***The Middlebury Campus:* It seems you have been teaching and coaching jazz for quite a long time. How did your passion for music and jazz begin, and how did it develop with time?**

Dick Forman: Starting as a young child back in the Stone Age, I studied classical piano with teacher of the old school. By the time I reached high school, I played in the orchestra, but strained hard to hear what was happening next door in band rehearsals. I began to play Broadway show tunes, both for productions and for family entertainment. By the time I went off to college, I had begun listening to and trying to play jazz. Since then, the process has continued – listening, studying and playing, listening and playing. It's probably the best way to learn how jazz works.

I've also simultaneously done work with jazz singers. I began singing in high school and made it into the National Music Festival choir but began to feel that there were more rewarding ways to create vocally than the primarily classical choral repertoire. Thus, a strong interest in another jazz form was kindled and has continued.

***The Campus:* Tell us a little about the Dick Forman Jazz Group.**

DF: The Dick Forman Jazz Group has evolved over the years. In the mid-'70s I began to meet a number of Vermont jazz musicians. I played casually in groups, and frequently worked with singers. About 20 years ago, I found myself working fairly often with the same players—Middlebury native Don Stearns, a sax player, Jim Daggs, a bass player, and Bob Lemnah, a drummer from Burlington. The four of us have become the nucleus of The Dick Forman Jazz Group. Whenever possible, I love to add a fifth player, sometimes Paul Asbell on guitar or Glendon Ingalls or Dave Ellis on trumpet over the years. As a group, we've played regional festivals, appeared on a couple of NPR [National Public Radio] affiliates and done our share of weddings and parties.

***The Campus:* The Middlebury Jazz Band has had a 40-year history with some ups and downs. Could you please tell us a bit about its past?**

DF: Actually, there has been a college swing or jazz band since the form developed back in the 1930s. I've read reports of the band playing for dances during World War II. Don Stearns, my sax player, played with the group after he returned from a tour of duty in the army in Korea. At that time, the group was called The Black Panthers. I'm not sure how the Band functioned through the '60s, but within a few years of my arrival on campus in 1970, the group sprang from the ashes and decided to name itself The Sound Investment. There was a certain tongue-in-cheek grin which went with adopting the name. Over the last 30 years or so, there have been periods of intense activity, when student interest and the talent level was very high. There have been periods where the band was inactive and there were a couple of spectacular student directors. The most-recent resurrection began a few years ago. The band's current personnel have long desired to raise the level of the group's music, and started lobbying for increased College support. Peter Hamlin, the chair of the Music Department, approached Old Chapel, which agreed to support the collaboration between The Sound Investment and the Music Department.

***The Campus:* What is your vision for the Sound Investment "Renaissance Project" and what are the first steps you will be taking to get it off the ground?**

DF: I'd like to find the best jazz players on campus and let them share in the amazing rewards which can be had by making music, especially jazz, together. Some musicians on campus have been able to experience that in the Middlebury College Orchestra or in the Chamber Singers. But jazz players have been largely left out. Playing in a jazz ensemble also allows—in fact, requires—players to explore their creativity in a way which can't be duplicated in other formal groups.

We'll be exploring a bit of the early swing repertoire while concentrating on the high points of the more than 60 years of great jazz generated by bands led by people like Count Basie, Duke Ellington and Woody Herman, continuing into the era of Thad Jones & Mel Lewis, Charles Mingus and Maynard Ferguson, and exploring the contemporary work of groups like Rob McConnell's Boss Brass and Wynton Marsalis's Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. Eventually I'd like to have student compositions and arrangements to play.

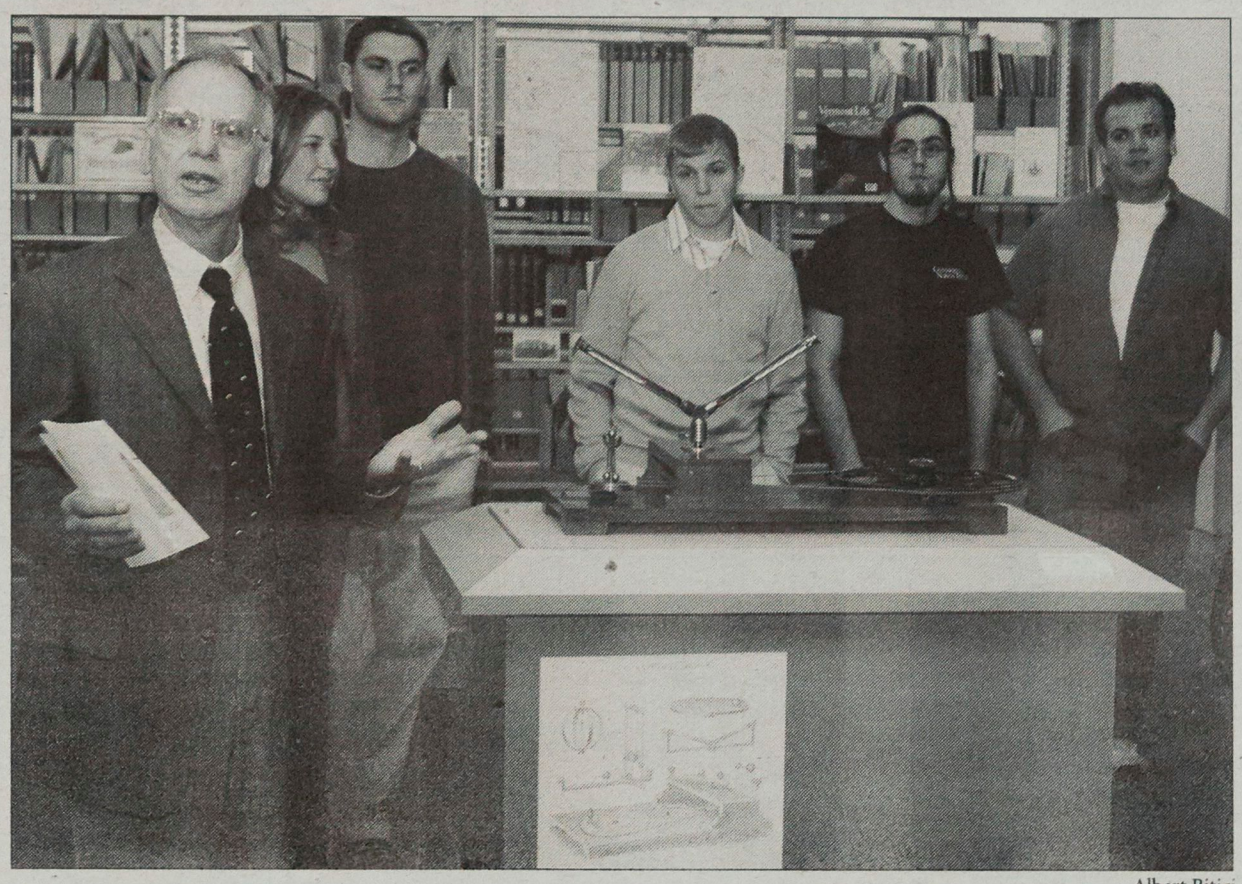
We'll be starting with the band's current personnel and we hope to attract other players on campus. Eventually, auditions will determine the group's membership. The standard big band instrumentation is two alto saxes, two tenor saxes, one bari sax, four trombones, four trumpets, and a rhythm section, usually consisting of piano, guitar, bass and drums.

***The Campus:* In addition to coaching jazz workshops, leading your jazz group and the Renaissance Project, what are you involved in and what are your interests?**

DF: My main gig is teaching jazz piano and jazz voice for the College's Applied Music Program. I also teach in other settings – for example, I just completed a series of jazz voice master classes at the Bundy Center for the Arts in Waitsfield. I've played with several jazz big bands in the state, and served as the music director for one of them for a couple of years. Outside of the music world, I'm very involved in health care quality and access issues around the state. I live in Salisbury with my wife, Michele, who teaches history at Middlebury Union High School and was the 2001 National Teacher of the Year.

— Joyce Man

'Rediscovering Middlebury's Philosophical Instruments'



Albert Bitici

Gamaliel Painter Bicentennial Professor of Physics Frank Winkler and students Sasha Wasserman '08, Steve O'Banion '07, Mike McCormick '09, Waylon Carl '08, Kevin Spear '08 and Ben Shapiro '09 (not pictured) present their student-curated exhibit "Beauty, Ingenuity, and Function: Rediscovering Middlebury's Philosophical Instruments" being shown in Special Collections in the Main Library.

WRMC 91.1 FM
On Rotation

BY BENJAMIN GOLZE

I like to imagine while writing this music column that I work for a bustling metro newspaper circa 1950. Men with names like Frank and Bill are madly shouting at each other about fact-checking the cop beat, their shirt sleeves rolled up on arms gesticulating wildly about ink orders and circulation numbers. I pound manically on my typewriter, sweating out this morning's stale coffee and last night's cheap whiskey as the impending deadline looms. The copy editors leer madly, angrily checking their watches as my lack of diligence keeps them from white picket fences and meatloaf.

Actually, that is not all entirely true. I usually imagine this not *while* I'm writing but *instead* of writing. However, in my imagination the editors are looking fiercer than ever and are increasingly taking on more concrete forms, such as threatening e-mails from the arts editor of the Campus. So I figure I'd better write this thing. Unfortunately, I still can't think of anything remotely interesting, so I'm just going to write about the next few songs that come up on Winamp's random play until I've hit 600 words. Here we go:

The Mountain Goats - "Golden Boy"

"There are no pan-Asian supermarkets down in Hell, so you can't buy Golden Boy Peanuts." John Darnielle, the man behind the Mountain Goats, can make lines like these sound more natural to a song than your standard top-40 lyrics. This song kicks off the excellent 2002 compilation "Ghana," which showcases the raw early years of the Goats, when it was just Darnielle, an acoustic guitar and a Panasonic tape recorder.

Autograph - "Turn up the Radio"

I hear this song surprisingly little around dorm room parties, considering that it is just as much cheesy '80s pop-metal as Ratt, Y&T and Dokken. Oh. I see.

Jamiroquai - "Black Capricorn Day"

Fun fact: the name Jamiroquai comes from the combination of "jam" and "Iroquois." I'm not too up on my Native American music, but I think the music is inspired by more of the former and less of the latter. From their 1999 album "Synkronized," "Black Capricorn Day" features the group's '70s club sound at its best. Break out from your Napoleon Dynamite soundtrack; "Canned Heat" is good, but it's not this good.

Mindless Self Indulgence - "Capitol P"

The name of this industrial/hip-hop group is surprisingly accurate, and the song is so obscenely addictive and, well, obscene that it's a good thing it's only two minutes long. Otherwise someone might catch you listening to it.

Connie Francis - "Siboney"

This song, from the soundtrack to Wang Kar Wai's latest feature length film, 2046, is as much a representation of the 1960s pop singer as the Hong Kong director's genius in soundtrack selections. Jazz, Latin, opera, and contemporary classical all make an appearance. This is the right CD if you're looking to broaden your little horizons, as my mom likes to say.

Bob Dylan - "Bob Dylan's 115th Dream"

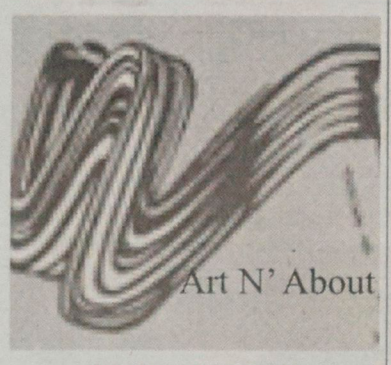
This song, I believe, is somewhat of a sequel to the more well-known "Bob Dylan's Dream." The venerable songwriter recounts an assuredly drug-fueled dream, featuring references to a Captain Arab, the Pope and the Mayflower.

The Beatles - "I'm Looking Through You"

From the oft-overlooked album "Rubber Soul" (as much as a Beatles album can be overlooked), "I'm Looking Through You" is one of the best songs from the transitional 1965-66 period. There's something about the way Paul shouts the chorus and George riffs at the end that suggests the way the group was about to burst out of their boy band image into something much, much bigger.

REO Speedwagon - "Keep on Lovin' You"

Okay. Now this is just embarrassing.



WITH JOYCE MAN

Discovering a good museum is immensely fulfilling. Finding it inside a converted turbine hall is even better. But if you combine these two with the chance to see one of modern art's most prodigious works, well then, you're either just plain lucky or, more likely, you've entered the Tate Modern.

Modern art has many critics and I sensed that the day I was at the Tate, I was accompanied by many of them. One woman exclaimed with nasal snootiness, "Really, I don't know what the hell these curators are thinking," while the guards standing by conversed amongst themselves, "There are a lot of them today," "them" being the usual disapproving crowd who just couldn't get enough of Jackson Pollock's paint-splattered panels at the entrance nearby. When I returned to Middlebury and told a friend I'd gone to one of the world's foremost modern art exhibits over break, his face darkened and he muttered something about bad high school art under his breath and added, "I hate ready-mades."

I've long struggled to explain what is so great about modern art (a motor rigged to a plastic phallus – impressive, is it not?) but at the Tate Modern, ready-mades aside, the audience is made ready to open their minds.

Just a hop over the pond in London is this enormous collection—three floors permanent and two rotating—of iconic modern works. Duchamp's "The Bride Stripped Bare" stands shoulder to shoulder with Dali's "Metamorphosis of Narcissus." In one room was a Magritte painting while a series of Giacometti's elongated human forms stood in the next. And if you, like me, rather despised Jackson Pollock or Picasso before, then at the Tate at least you understood what they were getting at.

The permanent collection, in fact, is such a great survey of recognizable works that my friend and I were barely able to skim through the three floors by the end of five hours even though we jogged through the last part, past the Andy Warhol Marilyn and red self-portrait. Apparently, some Damien Hirsts and Rodins were also hanging around, but when you can ignore the master sculptor and the guy who did the shark in the tank, well, then you know you're in a big museum.

And then the best part -Rothko's Four Seasons murals. Commissioned originally for a prestigious restaurant in Mies van der Rohe's Seagram Building, they are nine stunning paintings in red and browns that are now housed in one black-paneled room at the Tate. Any lover of Rothko would have been in their element and I, a dedicated follower who had taken copies of his paintings along on the year abroad in his native country, Russia, was exactly where I need to be. There can be no two ways about these panels. You either love them or hate them, but rest assured you'll do it with a passion. And why not? Rothko certainly took his art with intensity. When he was found dead in 1970, having slit his own elbows, his blood formed a pool 8 ft. by 6 ft. that uncannily resembled his paintings.

It almost made missing the Saatchi Gallery and the young British artists worthwhile. But then again, what good is the gallery without that infamous shark encased in a blue tank? Now there's modern art for you.

Battell receives a new paint job

By Alexxa Gotthardt
Arts Editor

Most dorms on campus enclose students in blank, vapid, white walls. At best, the walls exist unnoticed; at worst they stand unfriendly and uninspiring. The walls of Battell Hall used to be among the most lifeless on campus. Recently, however, an explosion of inspiration, zeal and color erupted in the building's formerly vacuous central hallway. The agent of this fresh dynamism: a vibrant student-conceived, designed and executed public mural.

The conception of Battell resident Alex Benepe '09, the mural stretches up the Battell south stairwell, its bold primary colors and dynamic student-silhouettes reverberating animatedly off of the once-white walls. The mural itself consists of two parts — background and foreground. The background progresses fluidly through the color-spectrum, beginning with purple on the first floor, then fading to red, orange, yellow, green, blue and finally returning to purple on the third floor.

The foreground is animated by multicolored silhouettes of Battell residents whose shadows were projected on the walls and then traced and filled with paint. They assume a diverse range of poses — some play sports, others DJ, dance and rock out on guitar. The most stand-out silhouettes swoop across the top of the stairwell on broomsticks — monuments to the famed Middlebury Quidditch players, the majority of whom live in Battell.

Benepe was inspired to create the mural after helping paint the walls of the Vitality of the Artistic Community Association (VACA) gallery in Forest basement in the fall. "I just thought Battell is kind of grey and plain-looking on the inside," said Benepe, "and the stairwell is something people use everyday so making it look more lively and cheerful is always good."

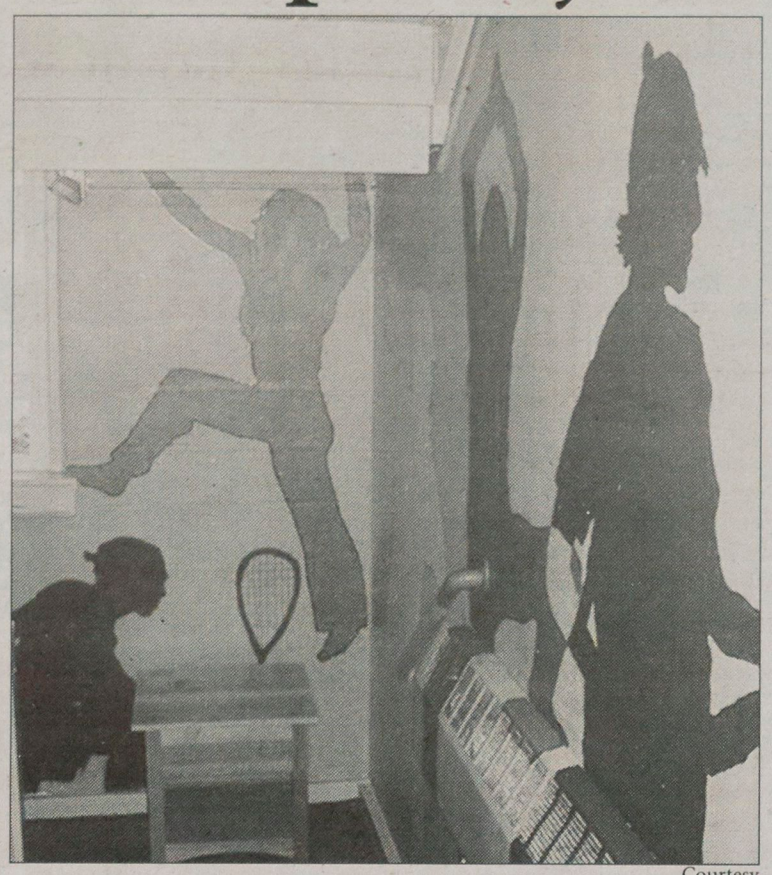
After the initial inspiration, Benepe then worked to acquire both permission and funding for the project. With the help of Cook Commons Dean Dave Edleson, Wonnacott Commons Dean Matt Longman and Wonnacott CRA Natalie Guarin, the Battell residents soon had both the permission and paint to begin the mural.

The student-enthusiasm to participate in the creation of the mural was immediately overwhelming. "The first night we began work, as soon as I slapped a coat of purple paint on the wall, people were instantly excited and inspired. At its peak, at least 20 people were working on it," said Benepe. With the help of many a Battell resident and the patience and cooperation of the Battell custodial staff, the mural was completed by the end of J-Term.

The Battell mural is not the first student-created mural on campus and will certainly not be the last. Mural efforts on campus were begun by VACA several years ago in response to what VACA co-president Kevin Buckland '05.5 said was a "dire need for public art on campus—something, anything real to combat the overwhelming white that pervades this institution."

The response by students and staff alike to the latest Battell mural was overwhelmingly positive and has left the Middlebury community only craving more color and creativity on the walls of both Middlebury's residential and academic buildings. "The mural looks fantastic," said Longman. "It is a tribute to the talents and initiative of our first-year students and it brings vitality to an otherwise bland space." Benepe also commented on the benefits of the mural. "The mural really served to unite the community. Almost everyone in the nearby halls helped out at least once and everyone was very excited and inspired."

The more murals painted, the more the demand for additional public art seems to arise. After the enthusiastic response to the Battell mural, Benepe and many other Battell residents are ready to take on the next project — the Battell North stairwell. Other public art efforts are currently underway, including Buckland's mural in PALANA and projects by Studio Art majors Josh Dihle '06 and Trista McGetrick '06. "We're still looking for one more [mural] this year," said Buckland. " The white walls and creativity are plentiful.



Courtesy

The student-created mural in the Battell south stairwell has enlivened the walls of the first-year residence hall.

Editors' A&E picks

for the week of February 16-23

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GOYA'S LOS CAPRICHOS
Fleming Museum, University of Vermont, 61 Colchester Ave., Burlington
The Fleming Museum at the University of Vermont presents this Spanish master-painter's pictures revealing the ignorance and superstition in the ruling class in the 1870's. This exhibition, taking place from now until May 14, presents all 80 black-and-white prints in the collection Los Caprichos.

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THREE ROOMS OF MELANCHOLIA
3pm and 5:30pm in Dana Auditorium, Middlebury College
Director Pirjo Honkasalo takes what *The New York Times* calls his "poet's vision photographs [of] the material world" into Saint Petersburg and Grozny, Chechnya to tell a story of beauty and terror in three parts. The Finnish director, who had by the age of 17 already made her first feature length film, won acclaim especially for the war footage, music and cinematography in this film. In Russian, Arabic and Chechen with English subtitles.

18

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES
9:30pm in McCullough Hall, Middlebury College
Directed by Meghan Nesmith '06 and Retta leaphart '06, the annual production of "The Vagina Monologues" takes the stage again with every kind of female issue from love to masturbation to sexual violence. A silent auction for art donated by students and members of the town community will take place during the show, and once again funds raised go to Women Safe. Tickets on sale in Proctor Hall on Feb. 15 and 16, at Atwater Dining Hall on Feb. 17.

21

DAVID FINCKEL AND WU HAN
7:30pm in the Concert Hall, Center for the Arts, Middlebury College
David Finckel and Wu Han return yet again to Middlebury to play a recital program including works by Prokofiev, Lera Auerbach Rachmaninoff on the cello and piano. The pair have been showered with superlatives and have played everywhere, from the New York Lincoln Center and the Kennedy Center in DC to locations in Europe and Asia.

22

DREADFUL SORRY GUYS
7pm in McCullough Social Space
Claudia Stevens, a multi-talented concert pianist, actress and classical vocalist has explored Native American histories and Nazi concentration camps in her peformances in the past. She comes to Middlebury with the "Dreadful Sorry Guys," a production on hate crime which she created after the murder of her gay friend, Gary Matson and his partner, Winfield Mowder, in 1999.

Panthers fall short of NESCAC postseason

Loss to Colby on last day of season bumps Middlebury out of the playoffs

By Sarah Luehrman
Staff Writer

In the last four weeks, the Middlebury women's basketball team has seen the toughest competition of the season. Though they suffered eight losses and ended their season at 14-10 — just short of making the NESCAC playoffs — the month of January was accented by some exciting victories, the kinds of games that proved to the team that they could play well and hang tough. Captain Micaela McVary '06 said of the 57-53 overtime victory against Tufts in particular that it demonstrated "we can win the close 'come-from-behind' games against good teams."

NESCAC play began on Jan. 13 when the Panthers traveled to Connecticut College and picked up a 75-56 win. The Camels barely had a chance when Middlebury went on a 20-5 run early in the game and ended the half with a 13-point advantage. Captain Lacey Hebert '06 led the offense with 18 points, followed by Jennifer Kelleher '08 with 13 and Maryanne Verzosa '06 and Katie Fisher '08 with 10 each. The next day's game at Wesleyan, however, brought the team's third loss of the season, 66-59. Alanna Young '08 and Katie Fehsenfeld '06 each scored 12 points, while Verzosa added 11.

The Panthers returned to Pepin the following weekend to play Bates, currently seeded first in NESCAC. The Bobcats arrived at Middlebury on a seven-game winning streak and carried their momentum through the game. The Panthers, however, gave Bates a tough time, trailing by only two at the half. "We forced them to get their points from different people [in the first half]," commented Head Coach Noreen Pecsok, "and did a nice job controlling their inside game." Bates then lengthened their lead considerably in the second half, but Middlebury came back and closed the margin to seven points, ending the game 73-60. Fisher was the top scorer of the day with 14 points. Pecsok was "very pleased with the effort" overall, and McVary noted that "playing a competitive game with one of the best teams in the NESCAC and the country proved to us how good we are."

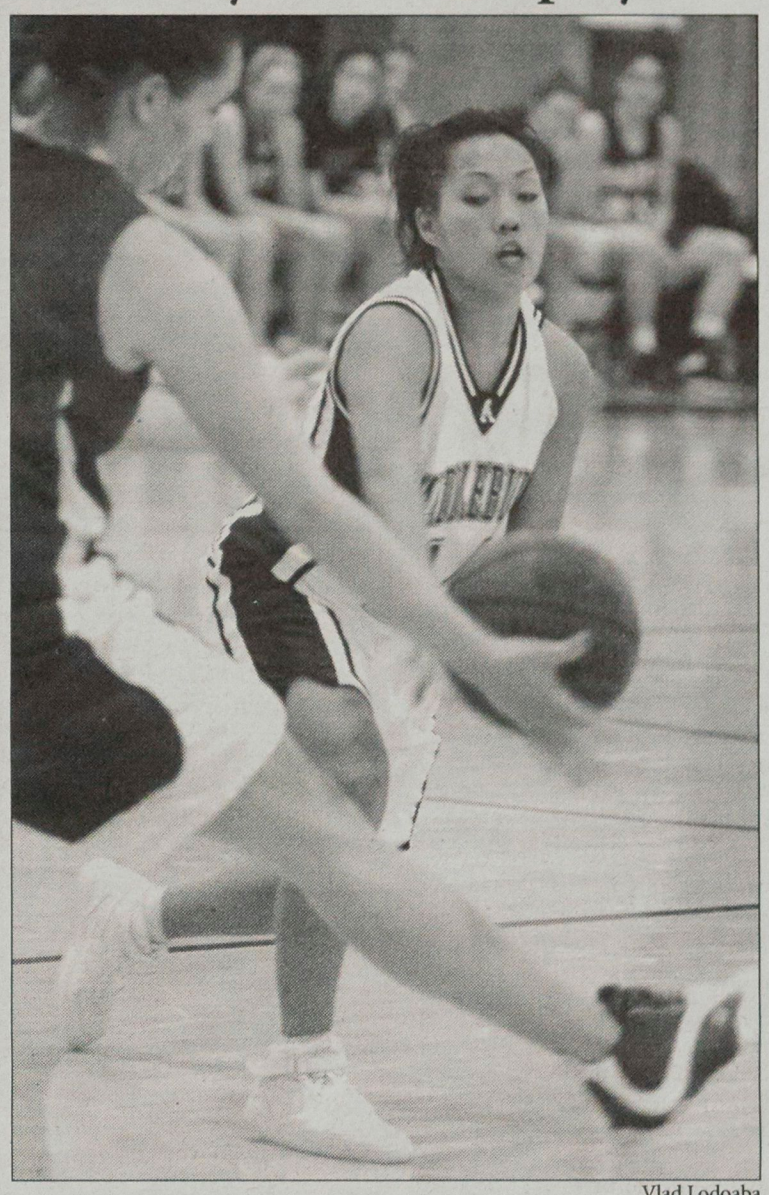
With less than a full day to recover from Bates, the Panthers reappeared on the court to face Tufts and, after a harrowing 45 minutes of play, claimed their first overtime victory of the season, 57-53. "After losses to Wesleyan and Bates," said Fisher, "we were frustrated because we realized exactly how beatable these teams are." Tufts and Middlebury exchanged the lead several times during the first half, and though the Jumbos led 27-24 at the intermission, their command of the game was far from decisive. Early in the second half, however, the outlook for the Panthers was grim as Tufts charged ahead to take a 10-point lead. With seven minutes to play, however, Erin Lackey '08 scored four points and sparked a 6-0 run for the Panthers. At the 3:34 mark, Tufts' lead had been cut down to one, and Middlebury had considerable momentum on its side. The win seemed almost out of reach when Tufts scored once more to lead 49-46 with less than a minute on the clock. Middlebury took possession and, with 11 seconds to play, Fisher sank her first three-point shot of the day from the top of the key to tie the game at 49-49 when the buzzer sounded.

"That momentum gave us a huge advantage going into overtime," commented Pecsok, and indeed, the Panthers scored six points in a row to start the overtime period. Tufts had a chance to steal the win back when they cut the lead down to three, but Fisher's two free throws with 12 seconds to play lengthened the lead to 5 and put the win out of reach for Tufts. McVary totaled 15 points and 10 rebounds, Young close behind with 14 points and seven rebounds.

During the following week, the Panthers suffered two achingly close losses, first to Keene State on the road, 50-46, and then to Williams, 67-61, in Pepin Gymnasium. Both games ended with disappointing play in the second half, when Middlebury had chances to overcome its opponents and fell short twice. The following weekend's victory at Hamilton, however, brought with it a feeling of redemption accented by strong play late in the game. Though Hamilton led by four early in the second half, the Panthers scored 13 points in a row, eight of which belonged to Fisher, to overtake the Continentals without looking back.

While most Middlebury students headed home for break, the team spent the following weekend on the road, suffering two disappointing NESCAC losses first to Trinity, 63-59, and then to Amherst, 58-50. Middlebury commanded both games in the first half and failed to keep it together in the second half, giving up an 11-point lead against Trinity and a nine-point lead versus Amherst. Despite the tough weekend, however, the Panthers managed a home victory against Plattsburgh State without much difficulty, pulling off a decisive 24-4 run early in the game and retaining the lead throughout. Verzosa led Middlebury with 13 points, followed by Fisher with nine and Kelleher and Carlie Harrington '07, each of whom added eight.

Just a few days later, the season came to a close for the Panthers when they suffered losses to Bowdoin, 59-48, and Colby, 60-38, falling just short of the NESCAC playoffs. Though it was a disappointing end to the season, the Panthers' 14-10 record remains Middlebury's best since 2001-2002. "We all wish that we were going into the playoffs this weekend, wish we could take back some of our losses in the league," commented Erica Goodman '06, "but there was more to our team this season than the final win-loss record." In addition, the team is full of young players who saw significant court time throughout the season, particularly first-years Emily Johnson, Aylie Baker and Ashley Barron. Sophomores Young, Fisher, Kelleher and Lackey also played a great deal and bolstered the team's offense consistently. Though the loss of seniors McVary, Hebert, Verzosa, Fehsenfeld and Goodman will certainly have an impact on the upcoming season, the team's depth of skill ensures an equally strong showing next November. Goodman added that "next year's returners will come back in the fall with the same focus, tenacity and love of the game and that the five of us seniors will remember this year as one of our best."



Vlad Lodoaba

Maryanne Veroza '06 could not help the women's basketball team reach the NESCAC tourney but the Panthers still finished the year with a 14-10 mark.

Editors' Picks

Questions of the week:	*Zamir Ahmed*	*Tom McCann*	*Ryan W. Reese*
Will the women's swimming and diving team win the NESCAC Championship?	NO Unless Williams swims with weights in their suits, the Ephs will win the title for the sixth straight year.	NO They've had a good season, but they just don't have enough.	NO They'll finish in their traditional second behind Williams and hotshot Lindsay Payne.
Will the men's distance medley relay team qualify for Open New Englands?	YES They'll qualify but they're going to get run over when they compete in the meet.	YES Honestly, I have no idea, but I'll give them the benefit of the doubt.	YES These guys can fly. They're in.
Will the United States win the gold medal in women's ice hockey?	YES It's not another "Miracle on Ice" but it will still be an upset.	NO It's been one failure after another for the U.S. This will be another.	NO It's Canada's medal. 16-0 against Italy? I didn't know that football was an Olympic event?
All-Time Record:	**7 - 8 (.467)**	**11 - 4 (.733)**	**9 - 6 (.600)**

By Justin Golenbock

I think, if I were allowed to write features on players, I'd interview Epiphanny Prince, the New York prep star that set a national record with 113 points in one game, just barely managing to eclipse her team's margin of victory (137-32). I found it very amusing how many people were offended by this. Comedy, as I have just learned in my first class on the topic, may derive from "a sense of superiority coupled with the absence of [lasting] pain" — Pavlos Sfyroeras. We can probably take for granted that the girls of Brandeis High School were not inflicted with any lasting psychological trauma, and so we can comfortably and unrepentantly enjoy the inestimable sense of superiority a triple-digit effort evinces (Ummm...vocab...).

Ironically, I happen to be writing about Epiphanny on Valentine's Day. Wait, you say, that's not irony. That's not even coincidence. It's just irrelevant. I say, wrong. Because, first of all, a straw man never wins an argument, and secondably, I was inspired to write this feature on Ms. Prince by an interview I read with Celtics point guard Delonte West. Now, Delonte was not actually asked by the Associated Press about Epiphanny's exorbitant scoring output (they picked some guy named Lebron James for that). But — and here's the connection — he was asked about his ideal Valentine's Day date, and what type of booze he'd use to class it up a bit. "The red Moet," he said, "we ain't popping no Kristal, it tastes like urination."

Now these may seem like two totally different topics (don't worry about it), but here's my point: Delonte's Celtics are 20-31, having dropped 6 of their last 7. Epiphanny's Lady Blazers, ranked second in the nation, are undefeated. When you're 20-31, even if you're a 22-year-old millionaire in the running for the NBA's Most Improved Player Award, you get interviewed by ESPN.com's Page 2 about Valentine's Day. When you score 113 points in a game, even if you're a 17-year-old on scholarship to Rutgers, you get your name in thousands of front page Associated Press articles across the country, the type of national exposure that could help her sooner rather than later make a living playing basketball in the WNBA.

So as far as sportsmanship and fair play and all that nonsense is concerned, my dad's friend has a story he likes to tell about his greatest memory from playing college basketball: giving up 60 to the high school aged "Pistol" Pete Maravich. It's almost certainly a lie (his other greatest memory is having never gone to college), but the point remains that the extraordinary individual effort required to screw up two-column box scores across the country deserves to be celebrated for what it is: entertaining. And funny. Provided the girls of Brandeis can laugh with us, of course.

Poor NESCAC form dooms Panthers

Men amass abysmal 1-8 conference record, miss playoffs

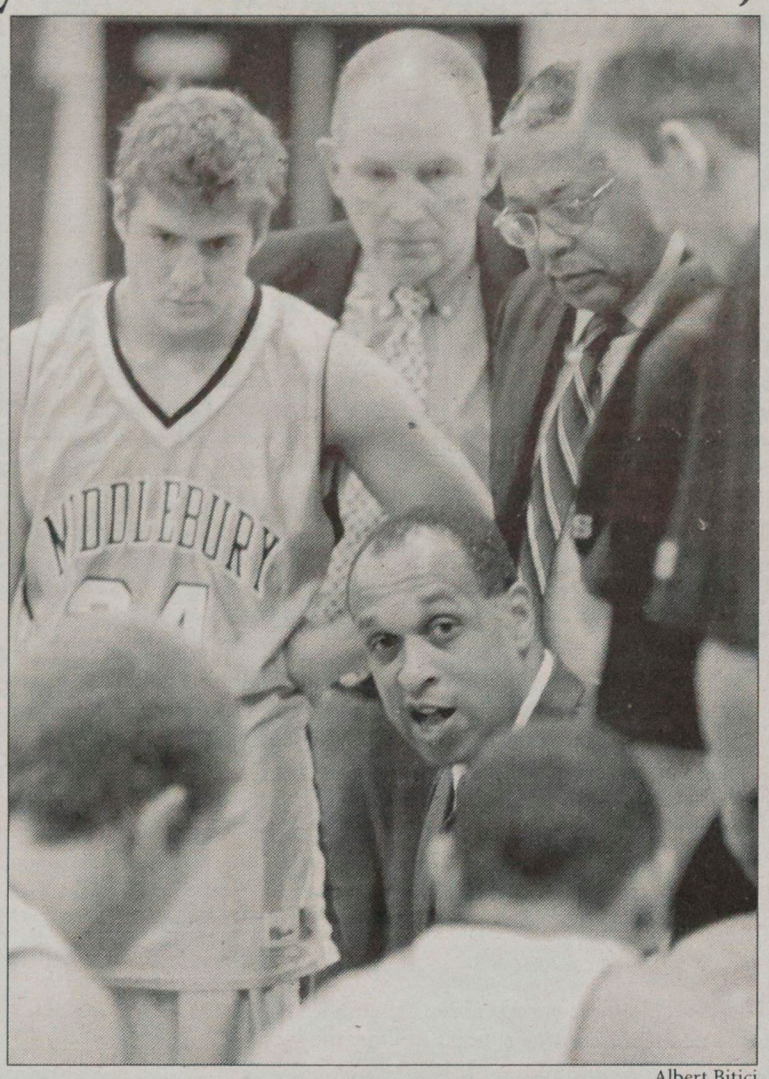
By Jeff Klein
Staff Writer

Thirteen games into the season, men's basketball owned a 10-3 record, a remarkable turnaround from last season. They had responded to a three-game losing streak in dominating fashion, posting three confidence-building wins, and seemed poised to make a serious run in the NESCAC playoffs. The situation seemed perfect. The table was set. And then conference play began.

Beginning with a heartbreaking one-point loss to Connecticut College in the opening game of NESCAC competition, the Panthers struggled mightily for the rest of the season. Their two-point setback at Bowdoin last Saturday officially eliminated them from postseason contention. A 78-64 loss at Colby the following day concluded a shockingly disappointing end to the season, in which the team ended conference play with an abysmal 1-8 record.

"We didn't perform," said guard/forward Ben Ehrlich '09 in regard to the team's late-season meltdown. "We didn't put together 40 minutes of good, smart basketball. We lacked composure and couldn't finish games."

The team's failure to finish games was never more evident than against Connecticut College. Middlebury led comfortably for much of that game, propelled by first-year point guard Ben Rudin's torrid shooting that gave him 28 points on the night. But the team, leading 67-56 with 3:16 left, collapsed down the stretch and was held scoreless the rest of the game. Two free throws by Conn. College's Jeff Young with five seconds left lifted his team to a 68-67 victory in front of a stunned Middlebury crowd. That first Panther loss in conference play proved pivotal, as the team began a freefall from which it never recovered.



Albert Bitici

The men's basketball team lost nine of its last 11 games to finish the year at .500, ending the season near the bottom of the NESCAC standings.

While Ehrlich does acknowledge the talent of the teams that defeated Middlebury, he nonetheless believes that the Panthers' own play was primarily responsible for the team's late-season collapse. "We played some good teams and I give them credit," he said. "But we have the talent to beat every team on our schedule without exception. It's just frustrating seeing some of those teams get hyped up and be successful, when we, the team, controlled that [by playing poorly and allowing them to win]. We will learn from our mistakes."

Without a doubt, the team did show flashes of its talent during conference play. Yet the most glaring problem during the string of defeats — one that also plagued the team in its three non-conference losses — was the team's tendency to fall behind big early in games. Middlebury's explosive offense often enabled them to make runs in the second half to get back in games, yet the players had buried themselves too deep to win. In all but two of their conference losses, the Panthers trailed by double digits in the first half. In three of these games, against Trinity, Amherst and Bowdoin, Middlebury was able to cut the deficit to two, six and two, respectively, in the second half. This is a clear testament to the team's ability and resolve, yet the deficits simply proved too large to overcome.

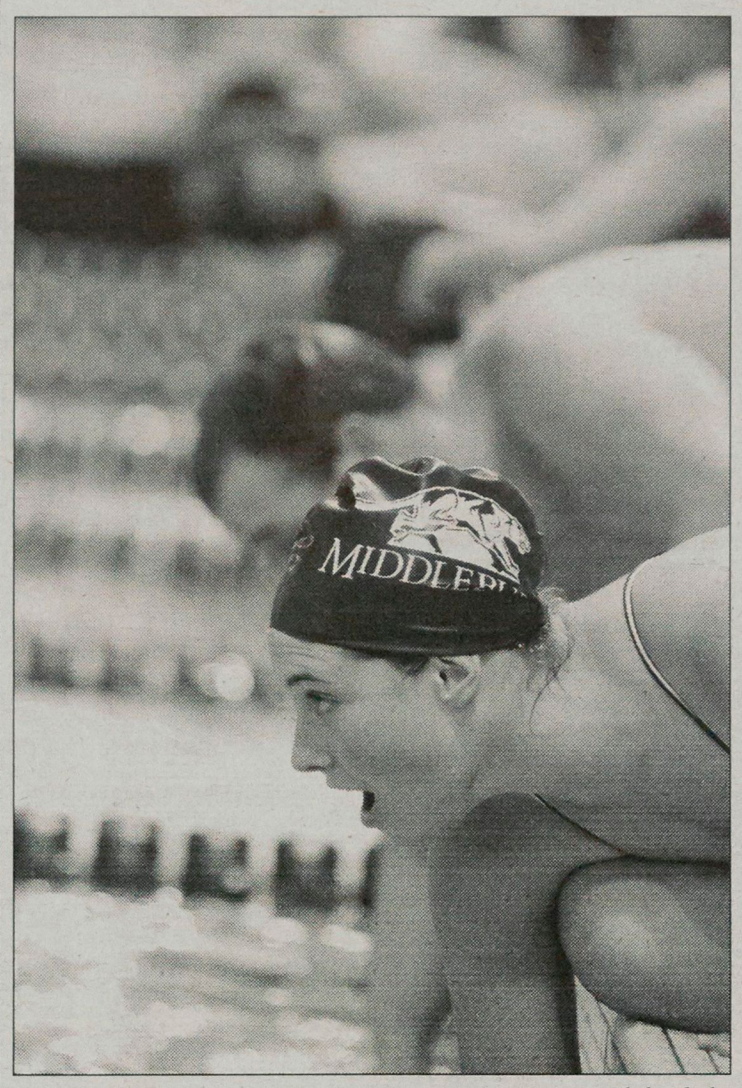
The team ended the season at 12-12, which is a marked improvement over last year's 6-18 record. As such, the team views this season as a success to some extent. Next year, however, returning members are determined to avoid a collapse such as this year's and instead go deep into the playoffs. "We took some steps forward this year, we played a lot of good basketball," Ehrlich asserted. "Yet the taste [of missing the playoffs] is so bitter right now, and we have no one to blame but ourselves. A 7-0 start is not good enough. Missing the playoffs again is not an option; it can't happen."

And according to Ehrlich, there is a key reason for optimism other than just the desire of erasing this year's bad memories: talent. "The fact of the matter is there's a lot of optimism because we will return a ridiculously talented team with everyone a year older. We will not make the same mistakes next year. We're so close to being a great team, and we know we can and will get there." Having vastly improved from last year and with a nucleus of talented players returning, the team has little reason to feel otherwise.

By Jeff Patterson, Staff Writer

2	Number worn by Defenseman Tom Maldonado, in honor of his boyhood idol, Brian Leetch.
5	First-year Matt Westman had the last pick, but the one he chose is the sum of the number he wanted, #23.
10	Will Hyatt has worn it since he was a kid because he, his dad and his grandfather all have birthdays on the tenth of the month.
10	Mickey Gilchrist's number is intentionally the same as Guy Lafleur.
21	Jake Moreno-Coplon has worn it since middle school because his favorite player is Kevin Garnett.
45	Chris Dowd fittingly chose Michael Jordan's comeback number after his return to Midd for the second semester.

Eyes On The Prize



Vlad Lodoaba

Looking to challenge Williams for top honors, the women's swimming and diving team will be in Bowdoin Feb. 17-19 for the NESCAC meet.

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

Garrott Kuzzy '06 explains his love for steak

***The Campus:* When did you start skiing?**

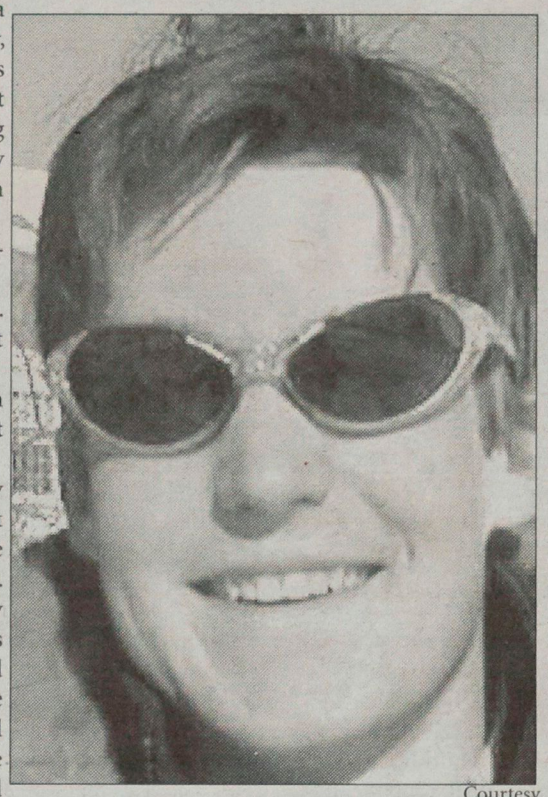
Garrott Kuzzy: I started skiing when I was four or five — alpine skiing — and then did that for fun till sixth grade when I started ski jumping. I ski-jumped for a year and my coach was a Nordic combined skier and so in seventh grade he got me to do some Nordic combined races. I liked the Nordic half so much that in eighth grade I went out for the high school cross country ski team and then skied cross country competitively in high school and then at Middlebury.

***Campus:* How did you get the nickname Kuzzy?**

GK: It's my last name.

***Campus:* That's not what I've heard.**

GK: [Laughs] It's a pretty good story actually, but I'm not sure if any of it's actually true. It's a story that got made up on a hiking trip during spring break my freshman year with a bunch of kids.



Courtesy

***Campus:* Are you going to elaborate?**

GK: I don't think so. Let's just say it's my last name.

***Campus:* What's been you best skiing moment ever?**

GK: It probably wouldn't be racing. It would be forerunning the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake. There's an overarching body for U.S. skiing and there's eight regions within it and because the U.S. hosted the 2002 Olympics they needed to have forerunners for the race to go out there and clear the trail before the Olympians go on. So they took the top male and female juniors from each of the eight regions of the country, so there were 16 of us, and paid for us to go out to Salt Lake City for a week during the Olympics and ski basically right in front of the athletes. That week was absolutely amazing. It was just gorgeous, perfect skiing. There was no pressure of having to race — just being out there enjoying the culture of the Olympics.

***Campus:* How far ahead of the athletes were you skiing?**

GK: Typically it was more of a formality than anything else so we'd go, like, 10 minutes before the racers and we'd just ski pretty easily in a big group — no big deal. It's really important to have forerunners though, when it's snowing, because you don't want the first athletes to have the disadvantage of having to break the first tracks, so they sent us out in intervals of one minute starting 10 minutes before the first racer — this is for the Women's 30k Classic — down to 90 seconds before the first women. I got stuck with one other kid 90 seconds before the first women started and they were like, "alright, you guys need to go out and stay between 30 and 90 seconds ahead of the top women" and it was three 10k loops, so 30k total, but we only had to ski the first 10k so the women weren't going that fast. That was probably the most exciting experience and the crowd was just going crazy and it was snowing and it was Salt Lake City.

***Campus:* Are you going to compete in the Olympics?**

GK: Four years is a long way down the road. It kinda depends. There's a few intermediate steps on the way but that'd be a goal so we'll see what happens.

***Campus:* What's your favorite event to watch?**

GK: The relay. The men's 4x100k cross country ski relay. Definitely. It's less about the individual athletes and more about the countries and teams and it always comes down to an exciting finish, every year.

***Campus:* Is skeleton a sport?**

GK: It's a pretty bad-ass sport.

***Campus:* Are they athletes?**

GK: Definitely.

***Campus:* Bode Miller: Punk?**

GK: Bad-ass. Yeah, Bode's a good dude. I think he's getting skiing out there and pushing things in the right direction. He's getting it attention, publicity – it might not necessarily be the most intelligent way to do it, but he's getting the name out there and he's definitely somebody who knows what he's doing. I heard him speak after the downhill yesterday and I was pleased with what he said. He gave a lot of credit to the guys that beat him and he didn't say that he had a bad race — he just said that those guys raced better than he did. I haven't really been following the story about drinking and drugs and stuff but I definitely think he's a good dude.

***Campus:* Do you have a favorite pre-event meal?**

GK: Pancakes. If I can get them, I eat them. At some point, I got the crazy idea in my head that I raced better after I had pancakes. There was a two-race weekend and I had oatmeal before one race and I had pancakes before the other race and did better after I had pancakes, so, some completely random reason, but that's how people develop these little idiosyncrasies.

***Campus:* Most embarrassing ski moment?**

GK: I would say handing out valentines at Carney Crush. We've got this really cool thing with all the eastern skiers on the carnival circuit for Valentine's Day, so like, this past weekend, was Carney Crush weekend and we race against the same teams every day, so everybody gets to know the other teams and it's all guys and girls mixed up and over the course of the season you kinda get your crushes on different girls. So for Valentine's Day at the Dartmouth Carnival everybody makes Carney Crushes and they hand out Valentines to their favorite skier. They always get pretty embarrassing – receiving and giving pretty wild valentines.

Campus: Who're hotter, Alpine or Nordic girls?

GK: Oh man, that's a toss-up. I don't even know how to answer that question — I'd say skiers in general.

***Campus:* Ever taken 'roids?**

GK: [Laughs] No. No, a big juicy steak is about as close as I'm ever gonna get to that.

— Tom McCann, Sports Editor

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	*Sport*	*Vs.*	*Result*	*Comments*
Jan. 28	W Swim/Dive	Williams	113-185	Marika Ross '08 reached the NCAA 'A" mark in the 200y butterfly.
Feb. 3	M Hockey	Norwich	3-4 (OT)	A hat-trick by Eric Lauriault hands Midd its first loss.
Feb. 4	Alpine Skiing	Vermont Carnival	2nd	Megan Hughes '08 and Clayton Reed '08 had second place finishes.
Feb. 11	W Squash	Conn. Coll.	4-5	Panthers reach the quarterfinals of NESCAC Championships
Feb. 11	Nordic Skiing	Dartmouth Carnival	2nd	Garrott Kuzzy '06 won the 10K and 20K races.
Feb. 11	Indoor Track	Bowdoin Invite	Men- 3rd Women- 2nd	Jen Katz '09 set school-records in the 50m and 200m races.

SPORTSBRIEFS

BY ZAMIR AHMED, SPORTS EDITOR

Carnival provides wintery mix

Albert Bitici

The 83rd Middlebury College Winter Carnival, running from Feb. 23-26, will feature a number of athletic events for students that do not require varsity status. The Carnival, a four-day festival celebrating a ski meet hosted by the Middlebury alpine and nordic ski teams, will include athletic events for both spectators and competitors. The celebration will provide Middlebury community members the chance to celebrate and enjoy the winter season despite the general lack of snow on the ground and unseasonable warmth.

On Feb. 23, Kenyon Arena will play host to the Winter Carnival Ice Show titled "Warning: Keep Frozen." The event is the first one of the Carnival and goes along with the general theme of "Iced Out." The featured skaters for the event come from the Middlebury Figure Skating Club, which is composed of both local community members and Middlebury students and staff. Joining them on the ice will be guest performers Ross Miner and Katrina Hacker. Miner, who is only 15 years old, is the 2006 United States National Intermediate Men's Champion, and Hacker finished 7th at United States State Farm Championships and won the 2006 North Atlantic Regional Junior Ladies Championship. The show runs from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with tickets for sale at the door for five dollars. Admission is open to the public. An encore performance of the show will run on Feb. 24 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

For those students who want to get outside during the break and have gotten into the Olympic spirit, this year's Carnival features a new event. On Saturday, Feb. 25, the Winter Carnival Social Board and the Middlebury Mountain Club will sponsor "Cabin Fever: Winter Olympics," which will be held on Battell Beach and McCullough Lawn. The event features activities such as sledding, snowman building, human bobsled races and snow football. The event runs from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

The main focus of the Winter Carnival will begin on Feb. 24, when the skiing events begin. The alpine events of the meet will take place at the Middlebury College Snow Bowl while the nordic events will be run at the Rikert Ski Touring Center. All the skiing events are open to the public.

So far this season, the Middlebury ski team has finished second to the University of Vermont at all four of its meets. If the team is able to overcome the Catamounts, the Panthers would certainly give the College community something to celebrate.

Olympic fever hits Vermont

Courtesy

Unless you have been sitting in a dark room for the past few weeks with your eyes and ears shut, by now you probably know that the XX Winter Olympic Games from Torino, Italy have kicked off. The Games, which began on Feb. 10 and end on Feb. 26, feature high-class competition in a variety of events in 15 different athletic disciplines. Bringing more reason to watch the Games for Middlebury students, this year's United States Olympic Team features four athletes with Vermont roots, who have already proven that they belong with the best in the world.

Perhaps the most recognizable Vermonter at these Games is Hannah Teter, who grabbed gold in the women's snowboarding halfpipe on Feb. 13. Teter, who won the event at the 2004 Winter X Games, took home the top prize after completing the two best runs of the competition. The 20-year-old, who was born and still lives in Belmont, Vt., has brought a little bit of Vermont with her to the Games. Teter carried with her to Italy some homemade maple syrup, which she has been helping her family make since she was young.

Though a long-shot for a medal, Andy Newell is America's best cross-country sprinter who has improved greatly in a short amount of time. Newell, who lives in Shaftsbury, Vt., went to Stratton Mountain School, which Lindsey Jacobellis, a favorite for the gold in the women's snowboard cross, also attended. Newell is the leader of a group of cross-country skiers who call themselves the Vermont Militia and live by the motto, "I'm from Vermont; I do what I want."

Jimmy Cochran, who was born in Burlington, attended Middlebury for a year but transferred to the University of Vermont (UVM) for his sophomore year. He is currently taking time off from UVM to make his Olympic debut, where he hopes to medal in the slalom.

MEN'S BASKETBALL | PANTHERS END YEAR WITH 12-12 RECORD | 22

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | MIDD FALLS TO COLBY, LOSES PLAYOFF SPOT | 21

GAMES TO WATCH

WOMEN'S SWIM & DIVE NESCACS
FEB. 17-19 | BOWDOIN

MEN'S HOCKEY VS. AMHERST
FEB. 18 | 4 P.M. | KENYON

campus sports

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2006

Violations of team policy halt men's season

Panthers blocked from postseason competition because of hazing offenses

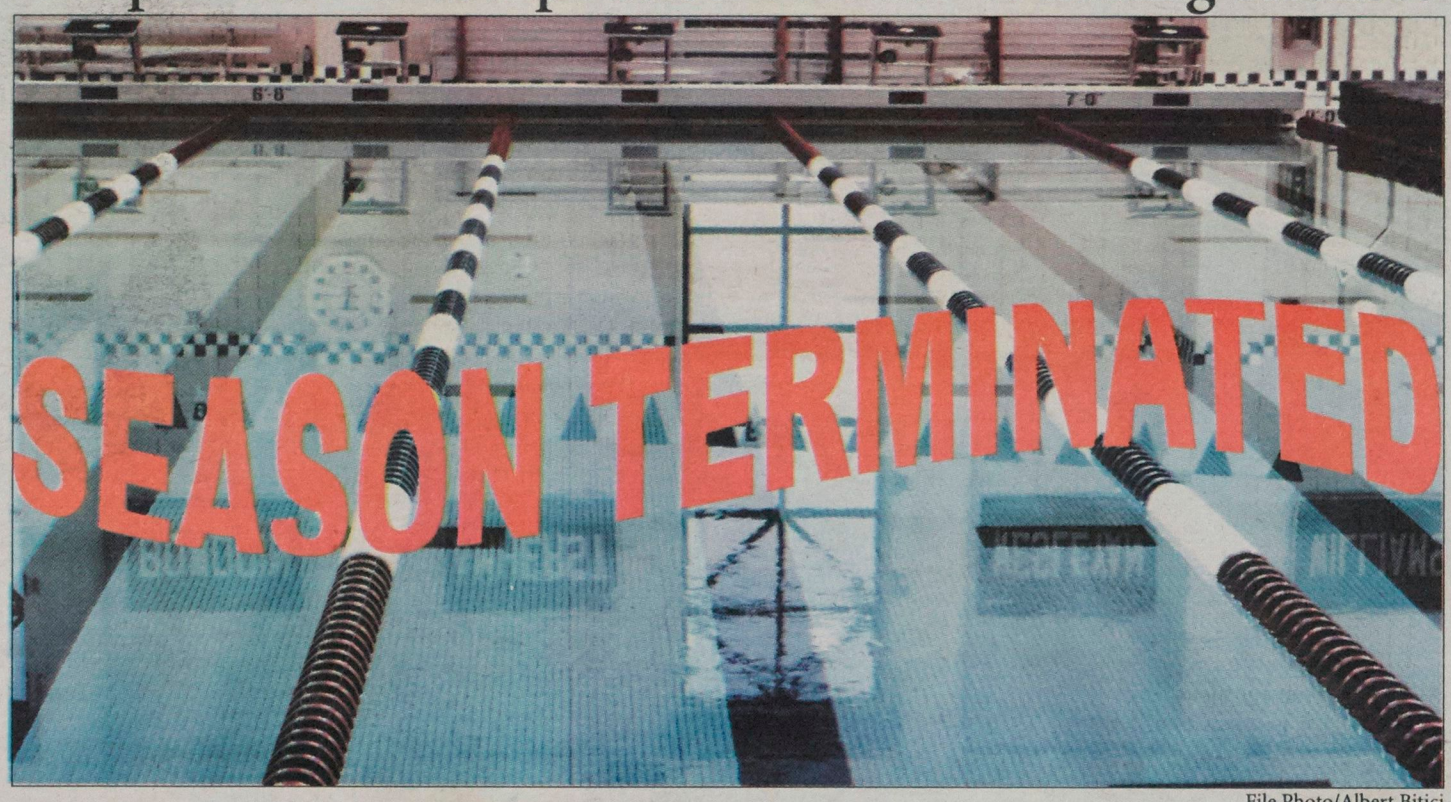
By George Mayer
Staff Writer

The Middlebury men's swimming and diving team was extremely optimistic about the opportunities that awaited them in the homestretch of their season. Following their 184-110 loss to national championship contender Williams on Jan. 29, the Panther squad was set to host the Middlebury Invitational in preparation for the NESCAC Championships to be hosted by Williams Feb. 24-26. During their own invitational, however, the Panthers were no where to be found after Coach Peter Solomon was forced to end the team's season prematurely mainly due to alcohol related events that violated team policy. Those athletes who have already qualified for the National Championships will still be able to compete.

As Coach Solomon said, "Once I became aware of the drinking violations, I wanted to make the consequences quick and significant." The Panthers were not allowed to compete in their invitational and are going to be kept out of the water for the remainder of the season. The NESCAC Championships will be held without them, as will the NCAA Championships in Minnesota. "Obviously we are all sad that these steps had to be taken, but a stance had to be made," said Solomon.

Unfortunately, several members of the Panther squad missed the chance to qualify for the Division III National Championships this season. Juniors Rob Collier '07 and Tim Lux '07 both qualified last year and were very capable of doing even more damage this year. Tristram Arscott '06 was the only panther to qualify for national competition before the season ended, but more would have had the chance to do so at the upcoming NESCAC Championships, where Middlebury swimmers have historically qualified.

Ultimately Coach Solomon believes that his decision to cancel the rest of the team's season will make the Middlebury men's swimming and diving program stronger. Solomon has talked to his recruits for next season about the full team suspension, and says that their parents seem to greatly appreciate the fact that a stance has been taken.



File Photo/Albert Bitici

Men's swimming and diving coach Peter Solomon cancelled the rest of the season after discovering violations committed by team members.

Details about the team's alcohol related violations are to remain private until pending punishments are finalized. It has been said, however, that the team's violation of the initiation process for first-year swimmers was because of the use of alcohol.

Problems related to drinking and hazing on athletic teams are certainly present nationwide and not limited to Middlebury College. The Middlebury Athletic Department holds its teams to higher standards than other programs across the country, however, and is greatly disappointed that these actions had to be taken. Athletic Director Russ Reilly is in full support of Coach Solomon's actions and believes canceling the rest of the season is the correct move. "Whenever an administrative member becomes aware of issues involving inappropriate use of alcoholic beverages, it is his or her job to take action," Reilly stated.

Solomon's actions have also drawn support from the team. "This, in no way, was an easy decision for our swim coach to make," said Arscott. "Coach Solomon felt that in order to put the men's swim team back on track with his and the team's goals, measures such as ending our season just before championships were necessary. While it is hard to accept his decision, we give him our complete support."

Solomon's decision to cut the season short is not the first time a Middlebury College athletic team has been removed from competition due to alcohol related issues. A year or two prior to when Reilly took over as athletic director, the College's rugby program had an entire season cancelled due to drinking violations. It remains extremely unfortunate that this year's Middlebury Men's swimming and diving team will no longer be competing, however, because of the opportunities that awaited it throughout the final weeks of the season.

After posting four consecutive wins over Colby, Bates, Hamilton and Union to start off J-term, things certainly looked bright for the Panther squad. The team had its eyes on a repeat second place performance at this year's NESCAC Championships, behind powerhouse Williams, and was well on the way to doing so. Unfortunately, for members of the Panther swim team graduating this spring, their senior season schedule will always be marked with an asterisk.

Women clinch top seed for NESCAC tourney

Albert Bitici

Alison Graddock '07 and the women's hockey team saw their 24-game winning streak come to an end against Williams, falling to the Ephs 4-1.

By James Kerrigan
Staff Writer

After 18 consecutive wins to start the 2005-2006 campaign, the Middlebury women's hockey team suffered back to back losses and lost a chance to go undefeated.

The club had been in cruise control, picking up three key victories on the road against New England College (NEC), Colby, and Bowdoin to finish 10-0 during the month of January.

Middlebury traveled to NEC and squeaked out a 2-1, come-from-behind win. Senior Co-Capitain Emily Quizon '06 netted the equalizer in the second period while Annmarie Cellino '09 banged home the game winner with 7:15 remaining in the third period.

Maine schools gave the Panthers little trouble as they cruised to a 3-0 win over Colby followed by a 9-1 thrashing of Bowdoin, ignited by two early goals from Panther forward, Abby Kurtz-Phelan '07.

Next up for Middlebury was Gustavus, a small, liberal arts college in Minnesota. The number 1 ranked Panthers faced off against the number 3 ranked Gusties in a battle for Division III supremacy. They traveled from the state of 10,000 (frozen) lakes, but it was Middlebury netminder Kate Kogut '06 who looked most comfortable on the ice as she stopped all 26 Gusty shots. While Kogut dominated her net, first-year Cellino took care of business at the other end, contributing on all three Panther goals. After failing to convert the first three power plays of the game, Cellino finally netted a goal in the team's fourth opportunity with an assist to Quizon. Junior blue-liner Shannon Tarrant scored another late in the period power play goal that put the Panthers up 2-0. After assisting the second goal, Cellino finished with an empty-net goal with 2:38 remaining.

Cellino's empty-netter turned out to be the last gift the Panther's got for a while as they took their first two losses of the season against Williams and Plattsburg. "We had a mental lapse," said Quizon. "There are no excuses for our losses. We simply got out-worked and out-played." After a 24-game winning streak (a Division III women's record) Williams handed Middlebury a somewhat unexpected loss. On Dec. 10, Middlebury traveled to Williams and beat the Ephs 4-1 on their home rink. History repeated itself just two months later as Middlebury suffered a 4-1 home loss to Williams. Things looked good early as Cellino assisted Quizon's first period goal. But four unanswered Williams' goals were too much for Middlebury. And so, the streak came to an end. During this stretch, the Panthers tallied 24 straight wins, five shutouts, 123 goals scored, 43 goals against and one National Champsionship in 11 months.

Middlebury was unable to rebound as Plattsburg took the contest 4-1. In November, the Panther's handed Plattsburg its first (and only) loss of the season — but the Cardinals avenged the early performance with a crucial win. Now things are reversed: Plattsburg is ranked number 1 and looking like the team to beat.

However, Middlebury ended the week on a positive note picking up two division wins against Connecticut College (2-0) and Amherst (4-1).

Although the losses were tough to swallow, losing is always preferable in the early season than later on. It's all business for the Panthers as they look to get back to their winning ways by playing the way they are capable of playing. Quizon commented, "We just need to regroup and get back to playing Middlebury hockey." They are, in fact, in control of their own playoff destiny — if they take care of Hamilton and Trinity on the road this weekend, they will house the NESCAC tournament on March 4 and 5.